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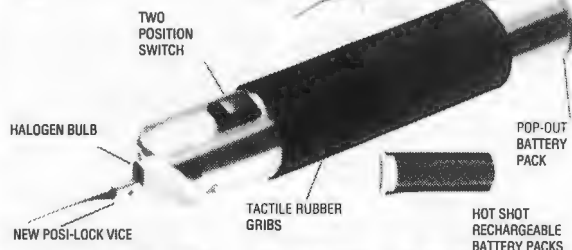
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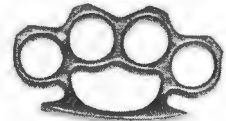
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## Choosing Safety Over Freedom

by Paul Danish

Some of the national media's more sanctimonious cheerleaders for gun control are discovering that those who would eviscerate the Second Amendment in the name of reducing violence and protecting "our kids" are also prepared to do the same thing to the First Amendment.

In October, Attorney General Janet Reno told a congressional committee that if the television industry didn't clean up its act with regard to violent programming, the Clinton administration would do it for them.

Reno told the Senate Commerce Committee that the TV industry should be given until 1 January to censor itself insofar as violent programming is concerned, "but if further, significant voluntary steps are not taken soon, I think government action will be imperative."

That prompted *The New York Times* to denounce Reno's statement as a "dangerous embrace of a very seductive form of censorship."

The *Times* is correct, but seems to have missed that the underlying justification for Reno's attack on the First Amendment is no different than the underlying justification for the media's ongoing attack on the Second Amendment: that violence in American society generally, and the danger that it poses to children in particular, justifies the abridgement of freedoms and rights that historically have been considered fundamental and inalienable.

When anti-gun newspaper and broadcast journalists are pressed on this point, they usually argue that there is a distinction between freedom of the press and the right to keep and bear arms — and that distinction is that no one has ever been killed by words, but this is self-serving nonsense.

Words, and for that matter pictures, can and do cause actions. That is why they are spoken, written, broadcast and televised in the first place. If

anyone doubts that printed and broadcast words cause people to act in certain ways, they need only consider the tens of billions of dollars per year that are spent on advertising.

Even the law has long recognized that words can injure, kill, or lead to civil disorder. That is why inciting to riot is a criminal offense, and why most states have criminal libel laws which make it a criminal offense (as opposed to a civil one) to besmirch someone's reputation to the point where he or she is physically attacked.

The fact that words and pictures so influence human behavior is precisely the reason why it was necessary to have a First Amendment at all. If printed and broadcast material wasn't capable of doing this, no one would bother with trying to censor it.

Like guns, printing presses and TV stations are tools that empower people, and like guns, they can be used for good or ill. The framers of the Constitution were well aware of this, having spent most of their adult lives waging first ideological and then armed revolution against what they considered to be a tyrannical government. Their writings leave not the slightest doubt that the First and Second Amendments were included in the Constitution so that government would not have a monopoly on the tools of coercion.

Those in the media who would deprive Americans of their right to keep and bear arms while insisting that their own right to free speech is sacrosanct should think long and hard about this. When major newspapers and television networks choose to campaign for gun control in the name of public safety, they are setting the stage for the day when a government censor will sit in their offices and tell them what they can and cannot say, also in the name of public safety. Reno's remarks should be taken as a warning that that day may be sooner rather than later. ☒

SOLDIER OF FORTUNE (ISSN 0145-6784/USPS 52810) is published monthly by SOLDIER OF FORTUNE Magazine Inc., 5735 Arapahoe Ave., Boulder, Colorado 80303-1340. Second Class Postage Paid at Boulder, CO. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, Subscription Department, P.O. Box 348, Mt. Morris, IL 61054-0348, or call 1-800-877-5207. U.S. and APO-FPO subscription rates for twelve monthly issues: \$28.00. California residents add 7.25% tax. Canada add \$10.00/yr. additional postage (includes GST tax registration number: R128476249). All other countries add \$21.00. U.S. FUNDS ONLY. Single Issue Price — U.S., \$3.95; United Kingdom, £2.60; Canada, \$4.75. PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

CONTRIBUTORS: Manuscripts, photographs or drawings are submitted at the contributor's own risk. Material should be mailed to Articles Editor, SOLDIER OF FORTUNE, P.O. Box 693, Boulder, CO 80306, and cannot be returned unless accompanied by sufficient postage. Any material accepted is subject to such revision as is necessary to meet the editorial requirements of SOF. All manuscripts must be typed double-spaced. All photographs should be credited and be accurately identified. Payment will be made at rates current at time of publication. Editorial office phone number is 303-449-3750.

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**COVER**

On alert in Somalia, a wary GI keeps his M16A2 leveled. As attacks by well-armed outlaws intensified against peacekeeping forces, support for U.S. Army Ranger ops in Mogadishu was fatally lacking from the Clinton administration and Pentagon on down to the area commander; see Col. David Hackworth's detailed account on page 48. Photo: David Brauchli/Sygma



# BULLETIN BOARD

## SOF ON THE SHOOTIN' SHOW

Tired of guns and violence on TV? We've got good news: Now you can watch guns on TV *without* the violence, on *The Shootin' Show*, once a week for a full hour at 8 p.m. CST on satellite (G-4, Channel 23), and at other times if your cable company tapes it for rebroadcast. Well into their third year of broadcasting, producer/host Johnny Rowland and his partner Curt Vickers have the show growing by leaps and bounds, which is especially gratifying — since at the onset Johnny couldn't

*The Shootin' Show* producer/host Johnny Rowland leans on the fence with a few favorite toys, while (inset) partner Curt Vickers and his favorite pint-sized shotgun rider take his Harley for a spin. They do some real good ol' boys 'n guns TV. For more info on *The Shootin' Show*, contact them at 554 Kings Hwy, Shreveport, LA 71104; phone 318-222-8515; fax: 318-221-6492. Photos: courtesy Johnny Rowland



interest any networks in the concept, and *The Shootin' Show* boys had to ante up for satellite time themselves.

Johnny's confidence that a mass market would find shooting and gun-related topics to be interesting, entertaining and educational has borne out. Their satellite coverage blan-



kets North America, and in more markets, every day *The Shootin' Show* is steadily garnering a popular following. All indications are they're headed for the Big Time. This is great news because, aside from the fact that Rowland and his crew are an exceptionally fine bunch of fellows, *The Shootin' Show* can reach

millions of viewers who don't know anything about guns, shooting or Second Amendment issues except what they get in an incredibly biased "mainstream" media.

Just as a picture is worth a thousand words, a show like Johnny's illustrating just what guns and shooting *are* all about is worth a thousand denials or protests from gun owners about what guns *aren't* all about.

While we're on the subject, make it a point to watch *The Shootin' Show* on 9 December, as the *Soldier Of Fortune* Convention and Expo will be featured: Johnny, Curt and crew were on site for the duration of this year's convention in Las Vegas, burning film while the shooters at the matches and firepower

demo were burning gunpowder. If you've wondered what an *SOF* convention was like but haven't yet been able to attend, here's your chance to see from the comfort of your living room — and it's a good time to check out *The Shootin' Show*, one of the

most important developments in the pro-gun media in decades.

## DAVIS CHARGES DISMISSED

On 24 September the U.S. District Court for South Carolina ordered that the indictments against



There's more to do at the *SOF* Convention than there's time to do it. Here *SOF* staffer Krissie Anderson and Chris from the Jim Wallace Skydiving School in Las Vegas make a tandem skydive. Why is Krissie smiling? Because they're *not* going to land in the firepower demonstration. Photo: courtesy Jim Wallace Skydiving School

Gordon "Tommy" Davis be dismissed (see "ATF Grudge Raid," *SOF* Nov. '93), because the BATF had withheld information from the magistrate who issued the original search warrant — i.e., they lied to get the warrant.

## ATF AGENT TO STAND TRIAL

In Grand Junction, Colorado, one John O'Neil, a tool-mark expert with the BATF, is to go on trial this month on a contempt-of-court charge. O'Neil would not turn over requested evidence in the trial of a subsequently convicted pipe-bomber, who claims (of course) that he was framed by authorities.

## CIB FOR SOMALI SERVICE

Under a policy directive signed 8 October, Army Chief of Staff General Gordon Sullivan authorized the senior Army commander in Somalia to award the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB). This directive follows by three months another Sullivan directive that authorized combat patches for soldiers in Somalia. Although implementing instructions were not available as we go to press, it is believed that Sullivan's action also authorizes wartime awards such as the Silver Star and Bronze Star.



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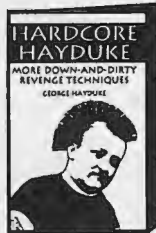
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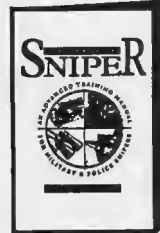
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# SLICK WILLIE WATCH



## REPUBLICANS SUPPORT THURMOND, OPPOSE HALPERIN

Sen. Strom Thurmond, R-SC, the Senate's longest-serving member and ranking republican on the Senate Armed Services Committee, expressed concern over the "extreme views on national security" of Clinton nominee Morton Halperin for the post of assistant secretary of defense for democracy and peace-keeping. If confirmed, Halperin would act as the DoD senior counterdrug official, and could play an important policy role with respect to low-intensity conflicts.

Thurmond noted, "The record is clear; he is simply not suitable for such a sensitive position in the Defense Department." Republican Sen. John Warner of Virginia placed a number of Halperin's writings into the *Congressional Record*, including a 21 March 1987 statement by Halperin that "covert operations are incompatible with constitutional government and should be abolished."

## THE PATRIOT'S PRAYER

The gun-grabbing politicians currently running amok in the White House are changing the tenor of what hangs on America's kitchen walls. Our favorite current hand-stitched sampler:

*God grant me the serenity  
To accept the things I cannot  
change,*

*The courage to change the things  
I can,*

*And the weaponry to make the  
difference.*

## SO WHO DO YOU BELIEVE?

"If elected president, I pledge to make the resolution of the POW/MIA issue a real national priority." — *Campaign promise by candidate Bill Clinton.*

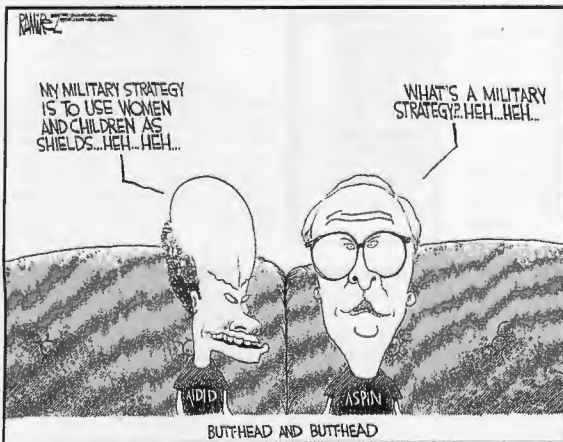
"... Today, I am announcing two new steps toward that goal. The first involves access by Vietnam to the International Monetary Fund. The second is my decision to send a new, high-level delegation to Vietnam ..."

## SO WHO DO YOU BELIEVE II?

Mr. Ly Thanh Binh, a business consultant from Florida, says Clinton's Commerce Secretary Ron Brown accepted \$700,000 in fees from the Vietnamese in a deal where Brown would further Vietnamese interests by working to lift the trade embargo, in exchange for \$700,000 plus a profit share from oil reserves in Vietnam, which would subsequently be deposited in a Swiss bank account. Various published sources state that Brown met with Vietnamese representatives in November in Florida, a second time in a rented townhouse in Washington, D.C., and a third time in February at Brown's office at the Commerce Department.

In a written statement, Secretary Brown has denied accepting any money from the Vietnamese. Aides have stated that although meetings did take place, they stopped when Brown became a cabinet member, and no money was accepted.

The FBI is investigating the matter. Binh has passed an FBI-administered lie-detector test.



## WOUND BALLISTICS 1994

Wound ballistics' first international conference will be held 26-28 March 1994 in Sacramento, California. This first International Wound Ballistics Association Conference will bring together working professionals in law enforcement, forensic, medical, academic and research fields to share experiences, ideas and information. A call has been issued for papers

describing relevant research or experience in the many aspects of wound ballistics, especially in the areas of ammunition design and effectiveness, forensic gunshot wound analysis, standards for law enforcement ammunition procurement, ammunition testing methods and the medical treatment of gunshot wounds.

Slated presentations include those by Dr. Martin L. Fackler M.D. (surgeon and former director U.S. Army Wound Ballistics Laboratory), Dr. Patrick Besant-Matthews M.D. (forensic pathologist speaking on "The Dynamics of Gunshot Wounds"), and Lucien C. Haag (criminalist and firearms examiner speaking on "Falling Bullets: Penetration Studies"). The conference will also include one day at the California Highway Patrol's shooting range for ammuni-

tion and tissue simulants testing, experiments and demonstrations.

Potential attendees should contact Alexander Jason, Executive Director, International Wound Ballistics Association, Box 634, Pinole, CA 94564; phone: 510-273-9596; fax 510-724-0733.

## RANDY WEAVER SENTENCED

Former SF trooper Randy Weaver, whose troubles began when he sold BATF shells a short-barreled shotgun and ended with a siege of his Idaho home (where federal gunslings shot his young son in the back, and an FBI sniper shot his wife standing in the door of their home holding their baby — feds were then caught falsifying evidence), has been sentenced as we go to press. Federal District Court Judge Edward Lodge gave Weaver 18 months in jail (less 14 months served), probation and a \$10,000 fine. (Details next issue.) ☒





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- Large Outside Pockets - Two at 10 1/2" T x 3" W x 19" L. Fully Padded and Lined.
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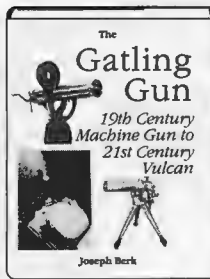


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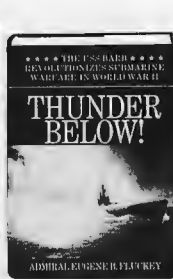
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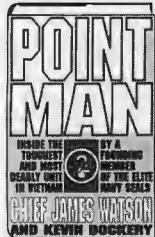
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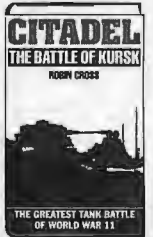
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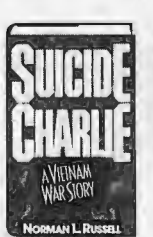
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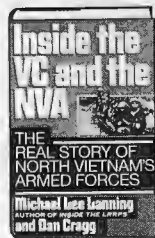
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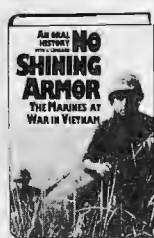
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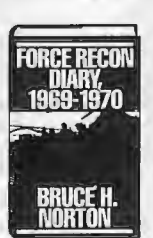
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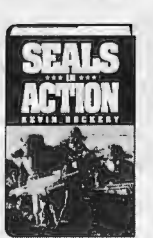
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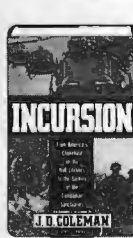
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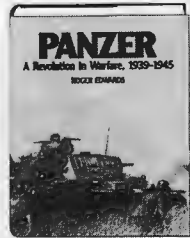
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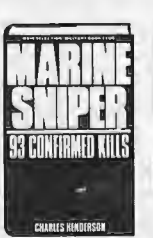
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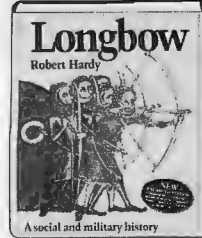
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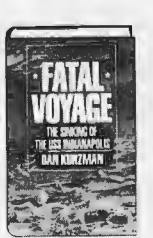
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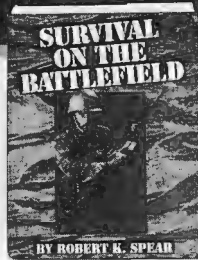


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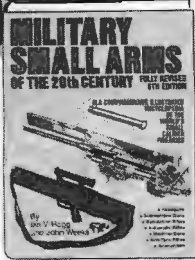
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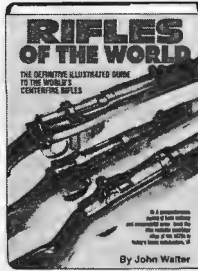
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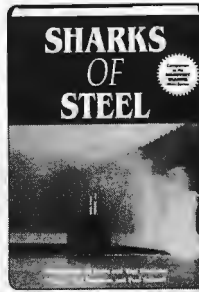
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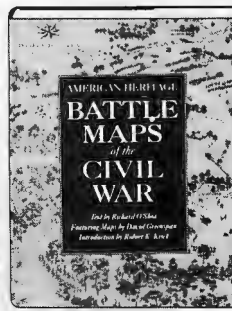
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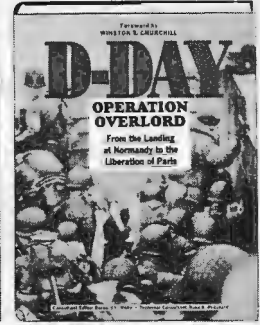
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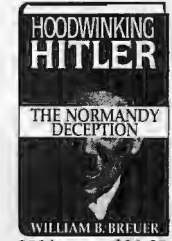
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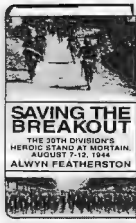
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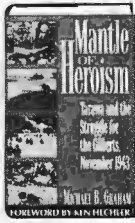
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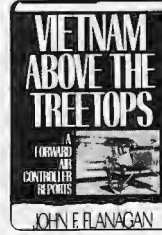
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# I WAS THERE

Noel Hell

by Robert B. Robeson



Author at left with co-pilot CWO 2 Timothy Yost shutting down Huey after 1970 medevac of wounded NVA officer. Photo: Bild am Sonntag, Hamburg, Germany

The chatter of three separate and distinct machine guns filled the cockpit of our unarmed Bell UH-1H "Huey" medevac helicopter on Christmas morning 1969, south of Da Nang, Vietnam; it rang in my ears and tore at my insides like a rusty knife.

I'd agreed to do a favor for Captain Rich Fox — another pilot and close friend — by switching our field-standby duties at LZ Hawk Hill during the Christmas cease-fire. Rich wanted to attend Bob Hope's Christmas show that day in Da Nang; Hawk Hill lay about 36 miles south of the coastal city along Highway 1.

At the time, I served as a captain and helicopter-ambulance pilot in the U.S. Army Medical Service Corps, 236th Medical Detachment, 61st Medical Battalion. Besides assisting the Vietnamese civilian population, we supported elements of the U.S. 23rd Infantry Division (Americal), as well as Marines, Special Forces groups and allied personnel (South Vietnamese, South Korean and Australian). Observing the cease-fire, all such units were now in defensive positions.

December of '69 had been the first month of my one-year Vietnam tour where I had completed 24 straight days without having my helicopter shot-up or downed.

Having twice gone down and losing four other birds to enemy fire in the previous five-and-a-half months of continuous action, I assumed the holiday cease-fire would be an excellent opportunity for some R&R.

The reddish mud of our

home away from home at Hawk Hill was still mushy from the night's dew. Just after completing a thorough preflight inspection, I set up my cockpit for day operations and began lazily taking in the early morning sunshine when the radio-telephone operator (RTO) ran over from our aid station; he was waving the familiar white mission sheet.

"You've got an urgent insecure mission for nine ARVNs [South Vietnamese army troops] — all of them hit by small arms and shot up pretty bad. Their compound was attacked about 15 minutes ago and they've taken more small-arms fire and some mortars since then." The radioman paused a second, then added, "No Americans are at the pickup site. They'll radio-relay through an interpreter from a position about 10 miles away."

"This is a joke, right?" I asked. He shook his head.

"How come I always have to deal with the 10 percent who never get the word?" I griped.

The RTO had no answer. "Merry Christmas, sir," he mumbled, backing away.

Quickly I plotted the grid coordinates on my map, then our crew chief, medic and other crew members arrived; soon we were airborne. Our destination was "Barrier Island," a dangerous and sizable inland stretch of white sand

and small villages centered in the river Truong Giang to the east of Hawk Hill, about two miles south of the coastal town of Hoi An, nestled against the picturesque South China Sea.

One thing about "dustoff" is that it has a way of pushing you out on the high wire, where precarious flying does its balancing act. Ours were, undoubtedly, the most dangerous and deadly helicopter flights in Vietnam. More than one-third of our aviators, crew chiefs and medics became casualties. Unarmed helicopter losses to enemy fire accounted for more than three times the losses of all other forms of chopper missions. We knew that wherever the "action" was, there was also the dying.

My stomach became queasy while nearing the pickup site. My knees were shaking and something didn't feel right. I'd felt this way before ... on other occasions when we'd been "hosed down" by enemy fire. It was a silent premonition.

We radioed a U.S. infantry adviser for an update on the patients' conditions, on direction of recent ground fire and on where we were to land. I asked him to radio a request to the site: We



ARVN wounded being loaded aboard dustoff on "Barrier Island" south of Da Nang, near pickup site of author's Christmas medevac. Photo: Robert B. Robeson

wanted them to pop a canister of colored smoke. The last reported fire had come from southwest of the site, so I decided to drop down to the northeast from 2,000 feet



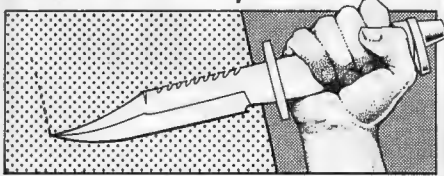
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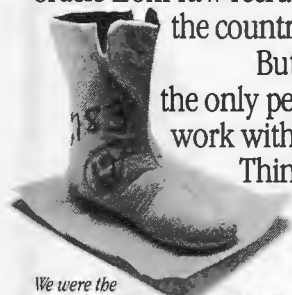
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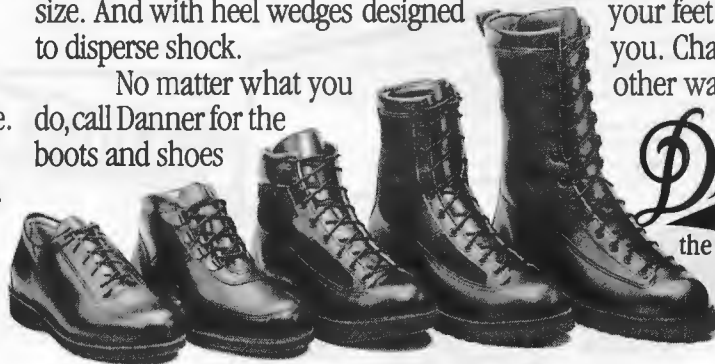
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and come in at low level on the deck. I intended to keep the ARVN outpost, situated atop a small hill, between ourselves and any potential incoming fire.

The ARVN popped smoke and we correctly identified its color to begin our tactical approach. I pulled the cyclic control stick toward me — nearly zeroing the airspeed — before dumping the nose and diving toward the ground. Sweeping back and forth in a series of radical "S"-turns, I lost altitude quickly while seeking to confuse any "unfriendlies" about our objective.

We were in a 4,500-foot-per-



Two of 19 small-arms hits taken by author's UH-1H during first Christmas rescue attempt.  
Photo: Robert B. Robeson

minute descent while our airspeed had built to a redlined 120 knots. I distinctly remember checking the instruments when our bird fell 800 feet like a roller-coaster car. As the altimeter swept past 700 feet, staccato bursts of machine-gun fire immediately triggered the burglar alarm in my central nervous system. Bullets began to splatter throughout the cargo compartment and cockpit, tearing through the tender underbelly of our bird.

It was a familiar sound — never forgotten once experienced — like the noise of a forest fire spreading through dry underbrush and crackling laurel. Suddenly I felt like a baby waiting for a diaper change. There was no doubt that we were badly damaged. Fumes filled our aircraft: A fuel cell was obviously riddled and we were trailing a thin mist of flammable JP-4 — the war suddenly became complicated and personal.

Pulling up sharply from the dive to seek the temporary safety of a higher altitude, I asked everyone

Continued on page 75

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# COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

by Louis Awerbuck

Home Defense:  
Handguns or Scatterguns?

No matter how well-versed you may be in the martial arts, a rolled-up copy of the Brady Bill is no match for an armed intruder. Some politicians may not like it, but one of the few means accessible to the law-abiding citizen for defending his life and limb is the Great Equalizer: a firearm.

The two most commonly selected guns for home defense are the handgun and/or the shotgun. Assuming the homeowner is adequately trained in the manipulation, marksmanship and tactical use of his weapon of choice — because without operator skill a gun varies from useless to a liability — it becomes a matter of deciding which weapon is more suitable for a specific scenario.

Both have salient features and both have liabilities. The obvious advantage of the handgun is its portability and relative simplicity of operation. It is, however, an extremely difficult weapon to shoot accurately in real-world stress situations, and its terminal ballistics fall short of satisfactory, irrespective of caliber.

Using the shotgun, on the other hand, gives tremendous close-up power and it is easier to hit your mark under fighting conditions — but more manipulation training and a more thorough understanding of the weapon and its ammunition are required than is the case with the pistol.

On this latter subject, one big plus for the shotgun these days is that it is much more difficult for children to accidentally operate a shotgun as opposed to the handgun.

While this is a sign of the times and not a safety feature inherent in the weapons, it could, nevertheless, be a deciding factor in the choice of home defense weapons for the concerned parent. A shotgun could be stored within reach, for example, with an empty chamber, safety on and a fully



When you reach for a gun to defend your home, should it be a handgun or a shotgun? Photo: SOF files

loaded tubular magazine. This would make it instantly available for use by the homeowner, but safe from accidental discharge by a child, as the safety would have to be depressed and the action racked before the weapon could fire — difficult combined mechanical operations to perform for anyone but a trained adult. Naturally this “safety” feature does not apply to a conventional double-barrelled shotgun.

Handguns, on the other hand, are more susceptible to the “child accident” problem and thus have to be left in a condition of lesser readiness when intended for home defense. The obvious solution is to train the child and not the weapon, as was the case for 200 years, but this subject, nevertheless, has to be taken into consideration.

This problem excepted, which of the two guns is better for home defense? The first question is that of overpenetration — the “What if I miss?” problem. And the answer is that a pistol bullet will penetrate more apartment walls than will buckshot — a much-misunderstood

fact. By the same token, using birdshot instead of buckshot to counteract the same potential problem is not the answer either: Because if the intruder/rapist/mugger is at any distance further than five or six yards it probably won't do the job, and if he's close, and situated next to a wall, a load of birdshot will penetrate the wall like a slug before the pellets disperse. An ounce of lead is an ounce of lead, and if birdshot hits drywall in a 2-inch pattern you may as well be shooting slugs. Overpenetration is a big consideration in a home defense situation, as family members can often be in the line of fire in rooms behind the intruder.

Question Two asks “Is the shotgun too long for gunfighting at home?” And the answer to that one is “no,” as long as intelligent “ready” positions are used relative to the situation at hand. Weapon retention should, of course, be practiced with both the shotgun and the pistol. Neither protrudes more than the other if employed intelligently.

And no, using a pistol-gripped stockless shotgun is not the answer, because even at close quarters you will miss if you don't use the sights, and a stockless shotgun actually projects further from your body than does a fully-stocked model.

“So why shouldn't I just use the shotgun every time and blow that sucker to Kingdom Come when he puts one toenail past my front door?” Because there's a thing called the law, even to the extent that in some states you have to prove that you couldn't have escaped from your own house, irrespective of the intruder's intentions or actions. And secondarily it ain't over 'till it's over, which means either help has arrived or you have personally bound his hands together — an extremely difficult thing to do when you're carrying a shotgun.



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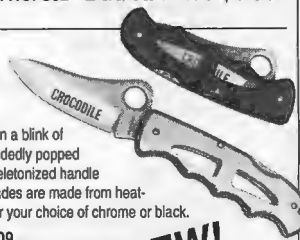
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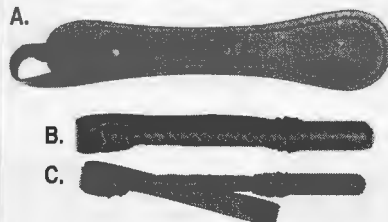
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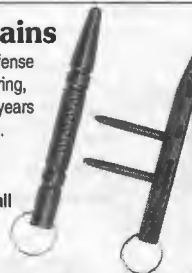
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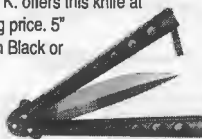
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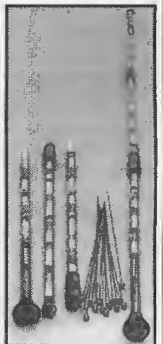
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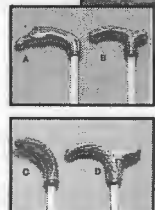
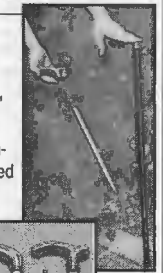
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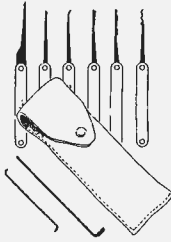
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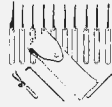
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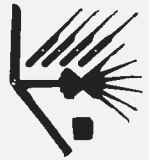
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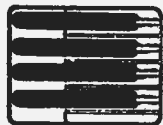


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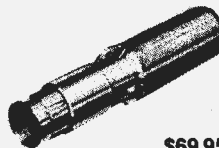
Set of 4 picks designed to be used on the most popular double-sided disc tumbler, showcase, cam and padlocks.

**\$27.95**

## MINI PICK TUBULAR

The most effective tubular pick on the market, unlike the larger picks with long handles or screwdriver handles. The longer the tool, the more pressure needed which causes easy breakage. The advantage of the Mini Pick is it is so short, you only use your thumb and index finger. With a little practice this tool will open a tubular lock in less than a minute. A. Your Choice: (1) Center (2) Offset left (3) Offset right; B. "Segal" 8 pin tubular; C. 5-pin Tubular; D. 6-pin Tubular; E. 8-Pin Ace.

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## SESAMEE DECODER

This tool was designed to decode the exact combination of a sesame padlock without damaging the lock. Detailed instruction included.

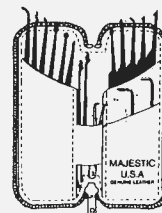
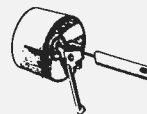
**\$17.95**



## SCHLAGE WAFER

The most fantastic tool you will ever use. This set consists of two base keys and pick. Complete instructions included.

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## MD16

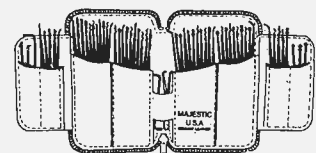
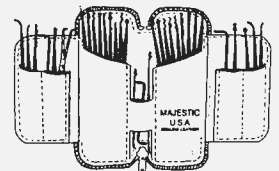
Shirt Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 16 Picks, Tension Wrenches and Broken Key Extractor.

**\$59.95**

## MD32

Hip Pocket Size, Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 32 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor.

**\$69.95**



## MD60

Top Grain Cowhide Leather, Zippered Case, has 60 picks, Tension Wrenches, Broken Key Extractor and Warded Master Keys.

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This final problem is the biggest decision-maker of them all. If there is anything but good ambient light, you will need flashlight illumination to be used in conjunction with either weapon. This means either a flashlight mounted on the weapon, which can be operated by the firing hand; or, in the case of the shotgun, an on/off override switch in addition to the conventional fore-end pressure switch.

It's all very well to have a pump shotgun with a pressure switch mounted on the fore-end — but if you have to use your support hand to open doors, tie up Mr. Baddie, etc., all you have is one shot and no vision. This may affect your decision whether to buy a pumpgun or semiauto, or even opt for a handgun.


The bottom line in a home defense situation is that you are attempting to *stop* a deadly force threat — this does not necessarily mean *killing*. And even if he is dead (which is the exception to the rule), you still have to control the situation. This isn't a matter of shooting steel or paper targets. You have to finish the job tactically — you can't just walk away. With either weapon you will need a flashlight (and with the shotgun a carry strap) to transition the weapon out of the downed intruder's reach and to leave your hands free for other duties.

Bear in mind too, that often you *won't* shoot, which also leads to tactical problems with either respective weapon. And if you *do* shoot, you are responsible for every single projectile you sling downrange.

So what's the perfect answer? There isn't one.

This author's personal preference is to stabilize close to a telephone with a shotgun (a) because of the weapon's inherent power; (b) the fact that it's easier to hit the target with a shotgun than with a handgun; and (c) I will wait for the intruder to come to me, as opposed to hunting him down, unless I have manpower for back-up: There is no material possession I own which would warrant my running headlong into someone else's battlefield of

Continued on page 25



# WIN THE

# HOG WILD

## HUNT OF A LIFETIME II

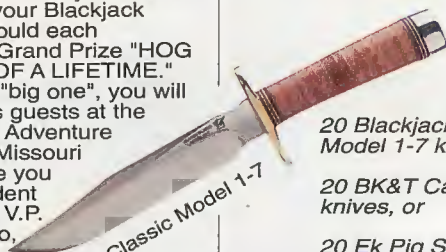
*Soooooeee!* The call is out . . . and it's your chance to win the second annual American dream hunt of a lifetime!

Enter before February 15, 1994\*, and you and your Blackjack knife dealer could each experience a Grand Prize "HOG WILD HUNT OF A LIFETIME." If you win the "big one", you will be Blackjack's guests at the beautiful High Adventure Ranch in the Missouri Ozarks, where you will join President Mike Stewart, V.P. Tony Caravello, and a leading outdoor magazine rep on an exciting Wild Boar hunt. Blackjack will provide all airfare, ground transportation, lodging, meals, and the mounting of your trophy.

Prior to the hunt, you will tour America's finest specialty knife production facility located in Southern Illinois and watch Mike hand-finish your own Blackjack Classic Blade.

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\*All entries must be received by February 15, 1994. No purchase necessary to enter. Void where prohibited. All contestants must be 21 years of age or older.

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# WORLD SITREP

1

## UNITED STATES

Marine Corps plans to provide each division with four 18-gun artillery battalions plus a MLRS (Manual Launch, Radar Search) battery. Artillery officers want 72 guns and nine MLRS vehicles expanded to 96 and 27 respectively. Corps wants four six-gun batteries per battalion so two can be firing while two moving at all times ...

Navy will scrap nuclear sub *Baton Rouge* (just 16 years old — half of projected service span) in order to divert \$250-million refueling cost to build a third *Seawolf*-class sub ...

Navy contracts to replace wings on A-6 attack bombers canceled, aircraft to be retired by 1999 ...

2

## CUBA

Captain defects and lands MiG-23 at Guantánamo; says he defected when told he would be expected to fire on civilians fleeing the island ... Another captain lands MiG-21 in United States, claiming he defected because Castro has sold out communist revolution by pursuing foreign investment ...

5

## NORTHERN IRELAND

IRA guerrillas in running firefight against British troops, fire full-auto on UK helicopter; Britain denies its troops follow "shoot to kill" policy against IRA fighters ...

6

## FRANCE

Corsican separatists blow up three French-owned luxury vacation homes; later, gunmen seize TV station to air agenda ...

5

6

9

## MOZAMBIQUE

Renamo stalls on demobilizing troops, but urges elections be held regardless (enabling quick resumption of civil war if Renamo loses popular vote) — U.N. insists both rebels and government forces must demobilize to form united military before any elections are held ...

2

3

10

## SOMALIA

U.N. Secretary-General Boutros-Ghali warns withdrawal of U.S. troops will destroy U.N. peacekeeping operations, while France accuses United States of seeking "military revenge" in Somalia. (Some 80,000 international troops are deployed worldwide in 14 U.N. peacekeeping ops, of which only Cambodia mission is nearly complete) ...

13

## EGYPT

Sheik Omar Abdel-Rahman tried in absentia for involvement in attacks on police; two other Muslims sentenced to death for murder attempt on army general. Government crackdown on Islamic fundamentalists ongoing; militants continue terror campaign, police and military accused of routine torture ...

4

14

## IRAQ

Newspaper *Al-Wasat* reports United States refused requests to bomb key Iraqi targets to support a mid-July coup attempt against Saddam Hussein ...

16

## CAMBODIA

United States says it will re-establish diplomatic relations with Cambodia. More than 1,500 defecting Khmer Rouge troops taken to Phnom Penh for integration into regular army. Defected guerrilla leaders say their men's morale at all-time low ...

"Second prime minister" Hun Sen, a former communist leader, declares Khmer Rouge has lost all legitimacy, so new government has right to destroy them. King Sihanouk tells guerrillas to turn over territory they control or face "police action" ...

17

## VIETNAM

Some \$3.5 million in U.S. humanitarian aid received — first such assistance ever given by Washington to Hanoi government ...



3

### HAITI

As Haitian military balks at relinquishing power, Pentagon officials demand any U.S. participation in U.N. mission to bolster Aristide's return to presidency be limited to six months as it is doomed to fail ...

4

### BOLIVIA

Government troops destroy drug lab believed to have produced half-ton of cocaine per week ...

7

### ANGOLA

Unita announces cease-fire, but MPLA government says rebels continue assault on Kuito regardless; Unita claims MPLA forces stick to attacks. Final warning of sanctions given by U.N. Security Council to rebels, demanding Savimbi accept election loss and 1991 peace accords. Unita forces resume shelling Menongue; MPLA claims three southern towns captured ...

8

### ZIMBABWE

State funeral given to Lt. Col. Dudley Coventry, murdered at age 78, who organized Rhodesian commandos to fight Mugabe, and who retained unit command after 1980 elections. Coventry first white soldier so honored by the black government ...

15

11

### SOUTH AFRICA

Extremists demand whites-only state covering "up to 25%" of country as a "rightful claim under international law," ANC's Mandela admits holding secret talks with white radicals, later announces ANC prepared to allow white-dominated province in a South African federation ...

19

14

12

### LIBYA

Libya says Lockerbie bombing suspects could be turned over to Scottish court only if numerous conditions are met against future economic sanctions or prosecutions of Libyans — Britain says no deals, only further sanctions or surrender of two men ...

There was an attempted midsummer coup against Khaddafi; details unknown ...

12

13

17

16

18

15

### RUSSIA

NATO nations might buy new SSN-22 "Sunburn" anti-ship missiles, designed for use on Sovremenny-class destroyers — U.S. may use up to 1,000 SSN-22s for naval target training; Britain might arm new frigates with them, rather than design new generation of weapons. Missiles cost \$600,000 each, half the Harpoon's price ...

Government believes some 80 of 290 soldiers listed as MIA still held prisoner in Afghanistan ...

10

7

8

9

11

18

### PHILIPPINES

Country vows to reorganize military to defend its claim on Spratly Islands, also claimed by China and Vietnam...

19

### JAPAN

Advanced joint-air-defense system with U.S. being considered to counter North Korean missile threat ...

World SitRep is excerpted from the biweekly newsletter *For Your Eyes Only: An Open Intelligence Summary of Current Military Affairs*. Published by Tiger Publications, P.O. Box 8759, Amarillo, Texas, 79114-8759; subscriptions are \$65 per year (26 issues). Sample issue available for \$3. Those interested in reliable, up-to-date world intel are encouraged to subscribe.





## SOMALIA THREATENS U.S. SOVEREIGNTY?

I am outraged at the abuse of American soldiers in Somalia.

This present problem arises from the United Nations' effort to "establish political stability." That is not part of the oath for U.S. military service. Not we, nor any other nation, nor the United Nations has any business using military force on nations that don't conform to its political norms.

Let's not kid ourselves, U.N. soldiers (i.e., our boys) have been exploited. They have been used to apply deadly force to initiate and establish this New World Order. They have shot Somalis and killed Somalis on their own soil. Should it surprise us that Somalis are shooting back in anger?

The constitutional task of the U.S. armed forces is the defense of America from foreign enemies. Is Somalia a "foreign enemy" threatening U.S. sovereignty?

Jack DeVault  
San Antonio, Texas

## WHEN IT ABSOLUTELY, POSITIVELY HAS TO BE DESTROYED OVERNIGHT ...

I read R.B. Anderson's article "Gurus of Guerrilla Warfare" (*SOF* Oct. '93) with interest, particularly in light of the beating our Special Forces and Army Rangers are taking in Somalia.

Anderson and other airborne and former airborne officers and writers always refer to the Army Rangers as "elite" and the finest conventional light infantry in the world. No unit should be labeled as "elite" until it has proven itself in combat. If the Rangers got their asses kicked by Somali militiamen, they can't be that elite.

When the Marines first went into Somalia in December of '92, they went in full force with M1A1 tanks, LAVs, heavy artillery, AV-8B Harriers and F-18 attack fighters, and the Somali gunmen did not bother or interfere with them. Marines

opened roads, highways and airports so food could be distributed. After the Marines turned the job over to U.N. command, things started to fall apart. So let's send in the Marines again.

Tony Icamen  
Chatsworth, California

## WHEN IS COMBAT REALLY COMBAT?

I'm currently serving six months with the U.S. Army in Somalia and everyone here knows we are in a combat zone; combat patches are even being issued.

Even so, we are doing PT (Physical Training), which is a good thing for most of us, but is not supposed to be performed in a combat zone.

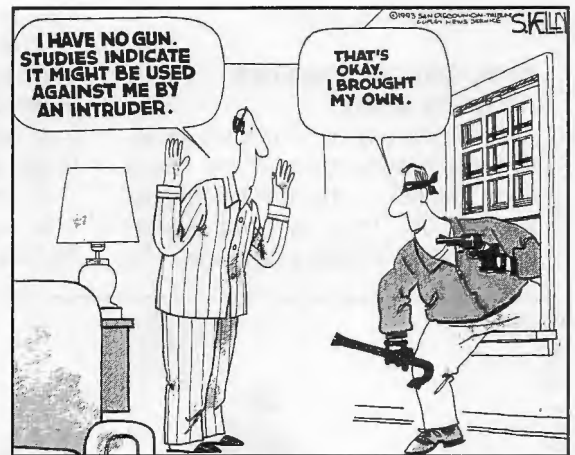
One mid-September morning we did our routine exercises and afterward started to jog around our base camp. We ran about a quarter mile then BANG, a loud explosion. According to our PT instructor it was nothing but a mortar round hitting our base camp. We were told to carry on with our running because no one got hurt. Is that what it takes? One or maybe more soldiers catching a bullet or some shrapnel before someone realizes we are in a combat zone.

Engineer  
Somewhere, Somalia

*Unfortunately that's exactly what it took.*

## SLICK WILL NEVER GET IT

I am glad to see David Hackworth writing for *SOF*. On most counts I agree with his military assessments and his recent piece on the mess in the Balkans is a good example. But he seems to be engaging in a good deal of wishful thinking about Slick Willie. Give it up Hack! Clinton cannot understand or appreciate the military professional or the warrior ethic anymore than he can relate to middle-class folks who work for a living. These are aspects of life quite



outside his realm of experience.

As long as he relies on the precedent of Reagan and Bush to guide his use of military force, Willie will look pretty good. But he has surrounded himself with the same kind of think-tank whiz kids who brought us Vietnam. And he is committed to the tried-and-failed notion that you can project power just as well with a small military as a big one. I can only wonder when he will abandon the example of his betters and strike out on his own. When that happens expect disaster.

In order for Clinton to be an effective commander in chief, he would have to reverse a lifetime of left-wing beliefs and warped values. He would in fact have to stop being Bill Clinton. And all of us should be fully aware that it ain't gonna happen.

Dan K. McQueen  
Florence, Arizona

## BEST EVER

I have competed in *SOF*'s Three-Gun competition for the last several years and this year's match was the best ever. Match Director Michael Horne assembled the top stages from the past several years and he picked the finest.

Every event challenged a different shooting skill and every event required practical defensive techniques. All were devilishly awkward and maliciously set up to persecute the shooters. An outstanding match! Congratulations on another fine *SOF* Convention.

T.J. Johnston  
NRA Member of the Board



The next World Championship Three-Gun Tactical Match will take place 13-17 September 1994. Register early if you want to participate by writing Michael Horne, SOF Match Director, 408 E. Harding, Bakersfield, CA 83308.

## BIOLOGICAL CANINE ATTACK UNIT

Louis Awerbuck wrote an excellent self-preservation article "Belly Gun Basics" in the September issue of *SOF*. In it, he cites numerous reasons for being prepared. His



primary tactic is to remain well-armed, possibly even packing two or three pistols.

However, as he admitted, this may be viewed as paranoid by some and possibly even illegal in certain areas. But for the security-conscious parent, there may more to worry about than who is calling you paranoid.

The answer for many is to store a weapon in a place that is inaccessible to children but reasonably available for emergencies. For those of you who have taken this approach, I refer you back to Awerbuck's article where he says you may only have three-fifths of a second to react to a violent situation.

My solution to this is simple: I have a medium-sized dog in my home. If someone were to break into my house while I was asleep, they would have to deal with him first.

OK, this approach to security is not exactly rocket science. Then again, no one is going to think you're a paranoid kook for owning a dog. It's simple, practical and you won't have to leave your gun in a place where your son can find it.

Christopher Nunneley  
Houston, Texas

## NOT THE FIRST TIME

Does this story sound vaguely familiar?

Once upon a time there was a right-wing religious fanatic wanted by federal authorities for a wide variety of crimes.

The feds had infiltrated his inner circle and could have picked him up at any time. Instead they trailed him to a rural hideout where he had a large cache of weapons.

A terrible firefight ensued. Federal agents poured hundreds of rounds into the building where he was holed up; he returned fire with equal ferocity.

When the ground assault proved futile they strafed him repeatedly with automatic weapons fire from a helicopter, firing randomly through the roof in hopes of getting lucky.

After having put him in a position where any reasonable man would expect to be killed, they went through the motions of negotiating with him.

They kept up the talking for a while but stories started to leak out in the press that they had botched the raid. Mindful they had to cover up their mistakes, they decided to break off negotiations.

Unwilling to risk another firefight, they lobbed incendiary charges into his hideout and burned him and the building down.

Thus died Rob Matthews, a white supremacist wanted for a series of armored car robberies. He was killed in Washington state in 1985. Does history repeat itself?

David A. Roach  
Corpus Christi, Texas

## WHY IS SOF LIKE GEORGE BUSH?

*SOF* seems to be following the George Bush strategy for defeat: Alienate one constituency after another. Military women are virtually dismissed by *SOF*. And instead of distinguishing between loyal Americans who happen to be homosexual and enlist to serve their country and quietly do their jobs, you paint all gays and lesbians as "Act-Up" New Orleans Mardi Gras caricatures. If you ever had any black

readers, I am sure you put them off with the blatantly racist T-shirts you advertise — *E=MC<sup>2</sup> It's a White Thing! You Wouldn't Understand.*

My suggestion is to lighten up. Invite a liberal to go shooting with you. When they find out how much fun it is, you might have one less anti-gun voter to deal with and you might get a good article out of it. Try treating your opponents as human beings with different opinions rather than scum. Don't drive away your subscribers in a conservative version of being politically correct.

Dave Barnett  
Amherst, Massachusetts

*SOF* always has and will continue to take a stand on important issues affecting the United States and its national defense. We don't believe physical standards should be lowered to allow women to serve in combat units. We believe gays serving openly will adversely affect the combat effectiveness of our military units and are therefore opposed.

We hate to play the part of censor for anyone's product, but the offensive T-shirt will no longer be advertised. For what it's worth, this T-shirt was a parody of a Malcolm X T-shirt that looked identical, but had his picture on it with the slogan "It's a Black Thing! You Wouldn't Understand."

We don't think those who disagree with us are scum; we merely think they're wrong and try to help them see the light.

## MUST-SEE SEALS

Thanks for publishing Tom Dunkin's photo of Captain Norm Olson standing at the entrance of the UDT/SEAL museum in Fort Pierce, Florida. The photo inspired me to make a side trip to Fort Pierce last May. I spent an exceptional two-and-a-half days visiting with retired Chief Jim Watson, the museum's director who has exceptional knowledge and many stories about "the teams."

I had the opportunity to preview the 3,700 square foot expansion and can say, without qualification, that the museum is a must see. I would highly recommend a trip to Fort Pierce to experience the birthplace of the U.S. Navy frogmen.

Jim Mau  
National City, California ☒

# PNEU-GUN™

## Air Powered Ballistic Baton



The "PNEU-GUN" (pronounced *new-gun*) is a fistful of security. It is only 14 inches long when assembled and fires out a lead pellet filled "Shotbag" at a muzzle velocity of 250-300 f.p.s. One CO2 gas cartridge supplants sufficient energy

to knock down a 300 lb. assailant

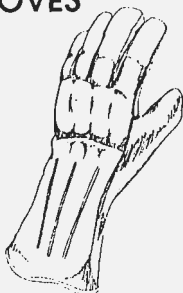
20 feet away. The "PNEU-GUN" air powered ballistic baton is awesome! You have to see it in action to believe just how effective it really is. Don't confuse "PNEU-GUN" with old style "stun guns", "Un-Guns" or "Bean Bag Guns". There is no comparison in power, quality, range, effectiveness or sheer beauty of design. Keep one in your car, next to your bed or handy for that unexpected emergency. The "PNEU-GUN" air powered ballistic baton is the perfect alternative to a handgun. Legal, effective, yet safe to use.

**AG1 ... "PNEU-GUN" Airgun Kit ... \$169.95**

(includes Airgun, 4 Shotbags, 6 CO2 cartridges, 10 gas check, 10 white end caps, loading cartridge, instruction book)

## SAP GLOVES

Made of soft, pliable, long wearing leather. Has six ounces of powdered lead carefully inserted into the fist of each glove. High quality and available in three sizes, medium, large and X-large.

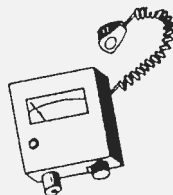


**DAM ... Sap Gloves ... \$44.95**

## PHONE CHECK

Telephone bug detector

This unit has both a light emitting diode and a meter read out. Will tell you if your line is interrupted while in use. Will also automatically shut down the line if a bug is detected or an extension is picked up.

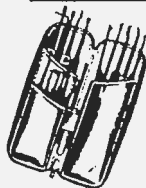


**ST1 ... Phone Check ... \$79.95**

## LOCK PICK GUN

The famous Lockaid tool was designed for law enforcement agencies to quickly pick pin-tumbler locks. Unlike conventional hand picks that activate only one or two cylinder pins, this tool is designed to snap all the pins at once. This tool comes complete with 3 steel needles and tension wrench.

**AZL15 ... Lock Pick Gun ... \$59.95**



## DELUXE LOCK PICK SET

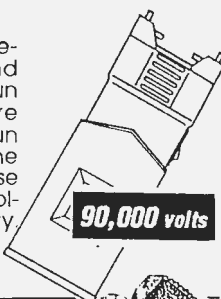
Our top selling pick set! This set has 16 pieces and comes with a handy shirt pocket sized case. The case is made of top quality leather and is zippered. Each pick is made of hard finished spring steel. Perfect for wafel tumblers or six or seven pin tumbler locks.

**AZL10 ... Pick Set ... \$39.95**

## NOVA XR5000 STUN GUN

This model is used by over 600 law enforcement agencies. The best quality and probably the "hardest hitting" stun gun around. The NOVA XR5000 has had more successful take-downs than all other stun guns put together. The NOVA XR5000 is the most widely accepted nonlethal defense device based on electronic pulse technology. Comes complete with NiCad battery charger, and belt clip holster.

**NV1 ... XR5000 ... \$79.95**



**90,000 volts**

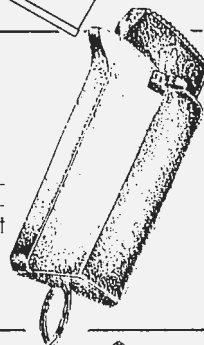
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## BODYGUARD 2000 DEFENSE PEPPER SPRAY

BodyGuard 2000 is the newest state-of-the-art self-protection product available. Easily controls drunks, psychotics, multiple attackers as well as drug abusers. Not a tear gas but a *natural red hot* pepper.

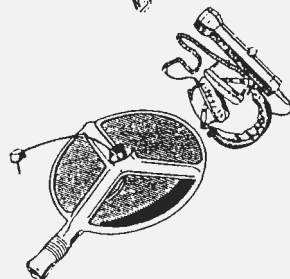
Formula used by police worldwide!

**BSD2000 ... BG2000 Keyring ... \$17.95**



## BIONIC EAR

This sound amplifier system increases sound by up to 30 db. It comes complete with headphones, wrist straps that allow hands-free use and a 12 inch parabolic booster that makes the unit more directional. Automatic safety circuit prevents sound over 95 db from reaching your ears. Also has mono output jack for recording.

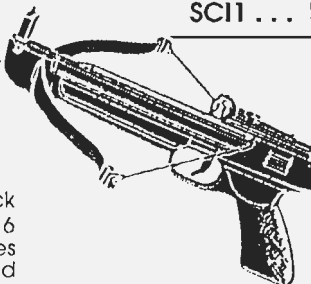


**SC11 ... Bionic Ear ... \$139.95**

## PISTOL CROSSBOW

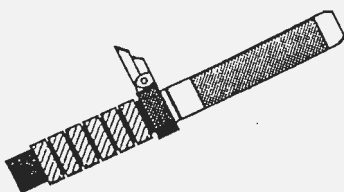
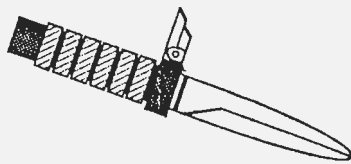
This compact pistol version of the deadly and silent crossbow is now available. This unit has fully adjustable sights, is amazingly accurate, comes in two different versions (50 lb. draw and 80 lb. draw) and comes with three practice arrows.

**PC1 ... 50 lb draw ... \$49.95**  
**PC2 ... 80 lb draw ... \$59.95**



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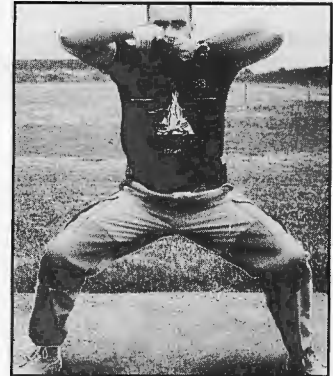
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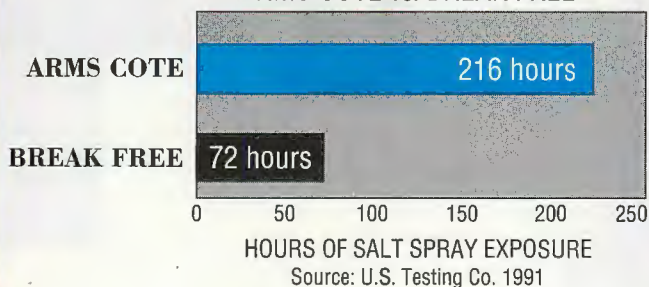
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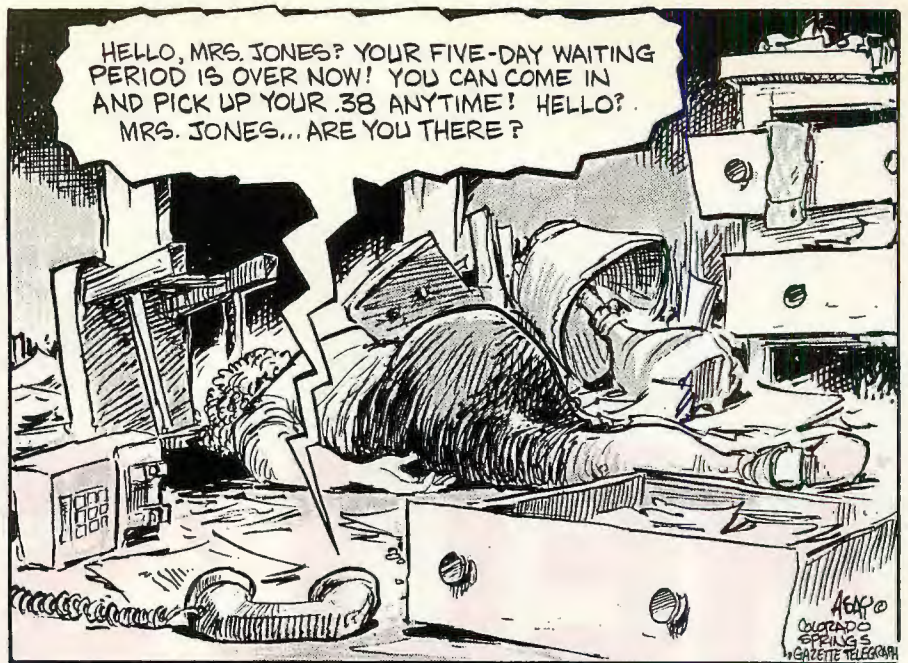


**In 1994** the U.S. Congress will convene to consider several major changes to the way Americans live.

President Clinton has resolved to revise health care, taxes, the armed forces, and has solidly thrown in with the anti-gun crowd of Sarah Brady and Handgun Control Inc. in their relentless push for the Brady Bill. This is a good time to examine the provisions of the Brady Bill and what it will do — and what it not only *won't* do, but what it could well lead to.

The Brady Bill is being sold as an innocuous “five-day wait” which would *require* a local police background check of handgun purchasers.

Hogwash. No form of the Brady Bill requires any local police check. It merely *permits* a local police check.



# Second Amendment OP

The U.S. Constitution prohibits the federal government from requiring a performance by a state or local government: We saw the ramifications of this when the federal government had to threaten to withhold federal highway funds in order to mandate the 55-mph national speed limit.

The only point that the proponents of this measure are truthful on is the admission that the Brady Bill will do nothing to reduce crime. They further convey their true intentions by admitting that the Brady Bill is “just the first step.”

The first step to what? *To the total elimination of firearms from the hands of all Americans except the police and the military!* Some of the Brady Bill proponents would eliminate firearms from the hands of many of the police, as well.

In actuality, two-thirds of the population of the United States already lives under the terms of state or local level “Brady Bills.” Although many of those who live under these constraints either tolerate them or are convinced that they may somehow be effective in curbing crime, no evidence exists to show that these existing restrictions have had any beneficial effect at all toward keeping weapons away from criminals.

In fact, reputable studies show that

it is the lawful use of firearms by law-abiding citizens in fighting crime that is skyrocketing! Gary Kleck, a University of Florida professor and ACLU member, has seen his tabulation of lawful firearms incidents by individual citizens in the fight against crime go from 300,000 times per year in 1980 to 2.5 million times per year in 1993. This data would indicate the Brady Bill, which will reduce Americans’ access to firearms, would tend to *increase*, rather than decrease crime.

In addition to the Brady Bill, there are at least 35 bills brewing in the U.S. Congress that would ban the manufacture, importation, transfer or possession of semiautomatic handguns, shotguns, or rifles; restrict or ban magazines with a capacity of more than 10 rounds; make dealers responsible for the misuse of a firearm after it has left their control; mandate the use of our tax dollars to teach anti-gun propaganda in public schools; require a buyer to account for every round of ammunition purchased; add an onerous 1000% tax on ammunition, and vastly increase the fees for a federal firearm dealer’s license.

Some people who should oppose these measures are sitting idly by or inadvertently supporting them. For example, some associations of firearms dealers are supporting the in-

## Congress Will Likely Pass The Brady Bill In A Hollow Attempt To Curb Violent Crime. Here’s Why It Won’t Work

by Jeff Nelson

creases in dealers’ fees in the hopes of driving their smaller competitors out of business. Some are willing to let their congressional representative vote for a federal waiting period, because it would not increase the state waiting period that currently affects them.

As this battle for our linchpin constitutional right reaches Capitol Hill, one of the tactics of the anti-gun crowd has been to quote questionable polling data in an effort to create the impression they have a groundswell of support. For each such bogus poll, the pro-gun crowd generally rebuts with

Continued on page 86



# HIGH

# HELL'S



Necklacing, Sept. 1991. Tires and wood scraps were piled atop mutilated corpse of Aristide's opponent Sylvio Claude, doused with gasoline, then ignited — barbarous practice is known in Haiti as "Pere Le Brun." Despite Aristide's love of such savagery, U.S. troops are to bolster his return to power. Photo: courtesy Lynn Garrison

**Are American** soldiers about to be drawn into the seemingly incessant violence in Haiti as protectors of an ousted president who advocates a barbaric form of lynching known as "necklacing"?

With minimal notice to the media, the Clinton administration announced on 21 July its intention to dispatch an estimated 350 military "police trainers and engineers" to Haiti to help restore President Jean-Bertrand Aristide to power. In early October, the figure was upped to "about 600" U.S. personnel projected to assist in stabilization of the republic.

President Clinton said Aristide's return holds "major potential for a victory for democracy" to "help foster a better role for the Haitian people." According to the White House, the U.S. troops will be part of a U.N. contin-



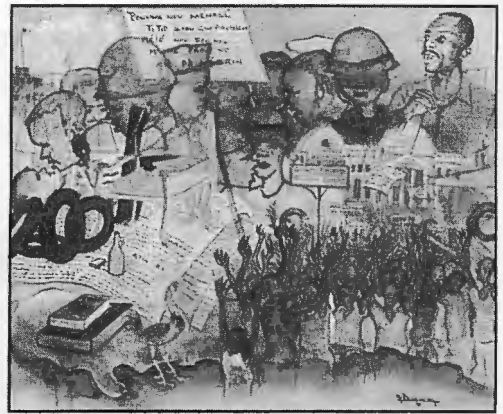
Attending 1992 gala L.A. liberal benefit in his honor, Aristide beams with delight before signing photo of painting exalting necklacing which had adorned his presidential office. Grinning, he called it his favorite picture.

Photo: Theodore Temple

gent charged with helping train Haiti's military and police, along with assisting such engineering projects as digging wells and repairing highways. Clinton's action bears a chilling parallel to a U.S. presence in Haiti which began in 1915 under President Woodrow Wilson and lasted until the 1930s, one of America's longest foreign occupations.

Although our mainstream media ignored the point, Clinton's decision also means American troops risk being drawn into violent civil war to support a president whose initial seven-month reign was marked by unmitigated terror, including necklacing political opponents and the use of street mobs to intimidate Haiti's parliament and courts.

None of America's Big Three television networks mentioned Clinton's troops-for-Haiti order, which may



# PRIEST

## Slick Willie Backs A Butcher In Haiti

by Joseph C. Goulden & Reed Irvine

prove to be one of his more calamitous foreign policy initiatives. *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post* ran the story on inside pages. Thomas Lippman of the *Post* charitably referred to Aristide as a "populist priest," when in fact he is a defrocked Catholic clergyman.

This is typical of the misrepresentation marking our media's coverage of Aristide. As the first elected successor to the brutal Duvalier family, Aristide enjoyed media favor as a "reformer" who would transform a nation of 6.1 million persons — 85% of whom "live in absolute poverty" with a per capita annual income of \$380 and a 50% unemployment rate, according to the CIA's *World Book of Facts*.

### Resignation Not A Coup

Neither Clinton nor the media mentioned the violent excesses that led Haiti's military to move against their new president in September 1991. Aristide was given a choice of resign-

ing or of being brought to trial on charges of repeatedly violating Haiti's constitution. The military cited nine specific accusations, ranging from theft of public funds and illegal appointments to packing the republic's supreme court and incitement to murder. In the presence of ambassadors from several countries, Aristide chose to resign and leave Haiti.

Media mythology has since depicted Aristide as a reformer who fell victim to a jackbooted military. In a 29 June article on the agreement that arranged Aristide's return to power, *USA Today* offered this explanation for his 1991 flight: "A Roman Catholic priest popular among Haiti's poor, he and his populism are loathed by the army and wealthy elite."

This is the carefully crafted image Aristide supporters have cultivated in America's media. One such manipulator is radical publicist David Fenton, a career press agent for leftist despots and zany domestic causes. Accuracy In Media (AIM) detailed Fenton's profitable career in 1989 when he engineered the Alar hoax into a major media event, terrifying American mothers and causing hundreds of million-dollars' damage to apple growers.

One whopper swallowed by our media is that Aristide was the "first democratically elected" president to ever lead Haiti. This is not true — Dr. Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier began his reign in 1957 through the polls. Soon thereafter, he declared himself

Painting glorifying necklacing and mob rule that hung in Aristide's office before Sept. 1991 military takeover. Note tires held aloft by masses; also presidential chair with tires, gas bottle and matchbook atop Haiti's constitution. Creole inscription urges Aristide to call for "Pere Le Brun" whenever needed. Photo: courtesy Lynn Garrison

"president for life" and suspended Haiti's constitution, a precedent followed by his son, "Baby Doc" Duvalier.

What scared Haitians about Aristide was that he was about to follow in the Duvaliers' footsteps, with his *lavalas* (Creole for "the flood") mob movement acting as a newer version of the *Ton-ton Macoutes* secret police who terrorized Haiti under the Duvaliers.

Aristide's lust for violence is vividly illustrated in a painting he kept on the wall of his presidential office. It portrays him above a crowd brandishing auto tires; to one side, more tires are piled next to a bottle of gasoline and a box of matches. A poster depicted in the painting's background explains (translated from Creole):

"If our power is threatened Ti Tid [Little Aristide]

If you have a problem

Command us to march and solve them with Pere Le Brun."

"Pere Le Brun" is a euphemism for necklacing, the savage act made infamous in South Africa through Nelson Mandela's African National Congress. Aristide's expression comes from Pere Le Brun, a major Haitian auto tire dealer whose TV ads feature him popping his head through a tire while delivering his sales pitch.

Grisly photographs show how Aristide and his street mobs let "Pere Le Brun" deal with political oppo-





Haitian mural of necklacing, or "Pere Le Brun" — Aristide's preferred remedy for purging enemies — also cheap diversion for masses from 50% unemployment, 95% illiteracy and per capita annual income of \$380. Photo: Peter Noble

nents. The body shown ablaze [on page 32] is that of Sylvio Claude, a Baptist minister and head of the Haitian Christian Democratic Party who had the temerity to oppose the "populist priest."

In September 1991, on the same night Haiti's army moved against Aristide, a mob of the president's supporters set upon Claude and beat him senseless; he died an agonizing death. According to eyewitness accounts, an Aristide henchman severed Claude's penis, put it in the corpse's mouth, then danced derisively around the body. Next, automobile tires filled with gasoline were draped around the victim and set ablaze. Confident that Aristide had survived the military's move, the henchman had a photographer record this moment of triumph.

That the mob chose to murder Claude with necklacing is no accident. On at least two occasions, Aristide publicly exhorted mobs to "necklace" opponents he felt were challenging his power.

One instance involved the July 1991 trial of a man named Roger Lafontant, a former leader of the Duvaliers' Ton-ton Macoutes. Soon after Aristide's election, Lafontant launched an unsuccessful coup, then was put on trial in a 22-hour marathon session. A mob surrounded the courthouse, with some members carrying tires and containers of gasoline.

The crowd demanded Lafontant be given a life sentence, even though Haitian law allows a maximum of only 15 years for plotting against the state. Intimidated judges imposed the life sentence.

A few weeks later, in a fiery talk to a youth group on 4 August 1991, Aristide approved of the mob's action. Radio Metropole broadcast the speech, circulated the next day by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service. In it Aristide said, "When they spoke of 15 years inside the courthouse, according to law, outside the people began to clamor for Pere Le Brun, because the anger of the people began to rise a little. That's why the verdict came out as a life sentence."

Aristide then began a shouted exchange with the friendly students; his words are in italic here, with those of

the students in regular type.

*"Was there Pere Le Brun inside the courthouse?"*

"No."

*"Was there Pere Le Brun outside the courthouse?"*

"Yes."

*"Did the people use Pere Le Brun?"*

"No."

*"Did the people have the right to forget it?"*

"No."

*"Don't say it's me who said it. Pere Le Brun or a good firm bed, which is nicer?"*

"Pere Le Brun."

*"For 24 hours in front of the courthouse, Pere Le Brun became a good firm bed. The people slept on it. Its springs bounced back ... the people have their own pillows. They have their little matches in their hand, they have their little gasoline not too far away ... does the constitution tell the people they have a right to forget little Pere Le Brun?"*

"No."

On 27 September 1991, in a speech given just two days before he resigned his office, Aristide once again spoke admiringly of Pere Le Brun. As reported by the Port-au-Prince newspaper *Haiti Observateur*, Aristide demanded the poor rise up against the rich and "give them what they deserve."

The *Observateur* noted Aristide's declamation: "What a beautiful tool! What a beautiful instrument! What a beautiful appliance! It's beautiful ... it's pretty, it looks sharp! It's fashionable, it smells good and wherever you go you want to smell it ..." This is the man whose return to power will be given a boost by our military.

### Machete-Wielding Manic Master

Orphaned at an early age, Aristide grew up as a ward of the Roman Catholic Church, entering the priesthood as a young man. Religion brought Aristide to political prominence. According to Haitians who followed his career, Aristide first came to public notice as a "radio priest" broadcasting sermons in fiery Creole, rather than the French spoken by foreign priests who dominate the church in Haiti.

With an illiteracy rate of 90% to 95%, Haiti is a republic relying heavily

### AS WE GO TO PRESS

A Caribbean flotilla of U.S. Navy warships, Coast Guard cutters and Canadian vessels intercepted merchant ships bound for Haiti as SOF went to press, enforcing a worldwide oil and arms embargo imposed against the island nation. A total commercial blockade appeared imminent.

Armed Haitian protesters prevented the USS *Harlan County* from docking at Port-au-Prince on 12 October; on board were 194 American and 25 Canadian troops. President Clinton withdrew the vessel and ordered another troop ship to stay put in Virginia.

The embargo spurred gas robberies and street fighting, but Haiti's confused parliament locked a quorum to pass the sweeping amnesty demanded by Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras before he and police chief Joseph Francois would step down. Some 600 Marines stood by at Guantanamo Bay in case Americans were attacked in Haiti.

A CIA report submitted to the White House described Aristide as a manic-depressive mob agitator. Clinton's bizarre response was to remark that the Agency has been wrong in the past. The entire Haiti boondoggle had become another Arkansas foreign policy gambit gone sour.

The *New York Times* of 27 October quoted one U.S. official: "It's [Aristide's] call, and there's a slim possibility he might try to head back anyway. Sometimes he sounds as if he's got one foot on the plane already. But we don't think he should go, and I wouldn't bet on resolving this this week." — Jerry Park





Troops drilling in Port-au-Prince, Haiti's capital. After years under terror from "Papa Doc" and "Baby Doc" Duvalier's secret police, the *Ton-ton Macoutes*, Haiti's constitution bars presidential paramilitary armies. Despite this, Aristide created the SIP, an armed police-state force trained by French and Swiss professionals. Photo: Peter Noble

Inset: Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras, Haiti's durable military chief; some Haitians call him a reasonable man in a corrupt institution. Our media usually portrays him as bully who ousted Aristide. Photo: Peter Noble

upon radio for political communications. Aristide's demagogic broadcast style made him popular among the masses.

Aristide preached scary stuff. A devotee of "liberation theology," grafting Marxism onto basic Christian teachings, he sometimes brandished a machete from his pulpit [reported in *The Washington Post*, 14 Dec. 1990] and demanded violent revolution to physically eliminate Haiti's elite. Violence, Aristide argued, was the only way to reform Haiti economically and socially. "Revolution, not elections," he would chant with followers.

Although the U.S. media reflexively refers to Aristide as a Catholic priest — often with the worshipful prefix "populist" — he was suspended from the Silesian Order in 1988. According to *The Catholic Standard*, the newspaper for the Archdiocese of

Washington, Aristide was accused by church authorities with "incitement to hatred and violence" and with emphasizing "class struggle" in his sermons. Aristide stopped wearing clerical garb at that time, but took it up again when he got into presidential politics.

Aristide carries flaws other than his violent political philosophy. One neurosurgeon and former dean at a Haitian medical school had Aristide as a student of neuropsychology during the 1978-79 school year, when Aristide was also a seminarian. In a written statement now circulating among Haitian dissidents, the physician declared, "I was especially attracted by the tremendous instability of personality of my student."

After talking with medical colleagues and theologians, the former dean concluded Aristide was under-

going a religious search known by French Catholic clergy as *nuit de l'esprit*, or "the night of the mind."

The neurosurgeon's statement continued, "*My ultimate diagnosis took the direction of the bipolar disease called 'psychotic manic depressive,' and I prescribed for Jean-Bertrand carbonate of lithium, which stabilized him completely.*"

Some 85% of Haiti's populace "live in absolute poverty," according to CIA. President Clinton says backing Aristide holds "major potential for a victory for democracy" — it also risks American troops being drawn into violent civil war. Photo: Peter Noble



When studying in Canada, Aristide continued his lithium regimen and was still on it when he returned to Haiti in 1979. The doctor noted how Aristide "could function very well if the condition was monitored and treated regularly." Haitian exiles say some of Aristide's worst excesses come when he ignores his lithium. Haiti's military moved against Aristide after the aforementioned September 1991 speech in which he exhorted the poor to rise against the rich. Along with other generals, Lieutenant General Raoul Cedras, as chief of Haiti's armed forces, demanded Aristide face trial on numerous specific violations of Haitian law, including the following:

- Given the bloody record of the Duvaliers' *Ton-ton Macoutes*, the Haitian constitution bars presidential paramilitary armies. Nonetheless, Aristide created a force called "Special Intelligence for the President," or SIP, trained by French and Swiss military experts and armed with weapons that bypassed the army when shipped into Haiti. Some Aristide supporters learned police-state tactics in Cuba, including block-watch groups patterned after Fidel Castro's "Committees for the Defense of the Revolution."

Continued on page 84



# SWORD PROVES MI

## SOF Correspondent Becomes Casualty in Balkan Bloodfest

Text & Photos by Mark H. Milstein

**The soldiers** of the Croatian HVO (*Hrvatska Vijeće Obrane* – Croatian troops in Bosnia) sniper team working this side of Mostar knew him simply as “the American.” The inscription on the weathered wooden cross marking his grave calls him Mack. Mack “Englez.”

Mack, according to a resident of the shell-scarred psychiatric hospital across the street from his grave, came to Mostar in early 1992 and died less than a month afterward from a lucky Serb bullet. He has since remained in the forest of Muslim and Croat grave markers sprouting from a former children’s playground.

The playground, interestingly enough, now lies less than 40 meters from a front line separating Muslim and HVO troops – two former allies against Serbia. That line also lies within earshot of a dozen cheap, but sturdy, stereo speakers hidden in trees that blast a round-the-clock diet of Black Sabbath and local thrash metal music in a not-so-covert HVO effort to drive their captive audience of dug-in Muslims insane.

It hasn’t worked. The Muslim forces in the apartment house across the street from my position had not stopped laying down machine-gun fire all afternoon. Once in a while an HVO sniper team, hidden on the fifth floor

of a nearby bank building, would loose a couple of rounds.

I was told that after lunch was brought up from the rear, elements from both the HVO military police unit along this line as well as the *Bruno Busic Brigada*, an elite HVO fighting force, would launch an assault to dislodge the Muslims across the street.

“First, we will try to flush them out with rocket fire,” said Mirko, the commander of the HVO military police unit in charge of this section of front line. “I think if we hit them a few times it will knock out their ability to bother us. If that doesn’t work, we will go back to just shooting at them all day.” Mirko then ordered Dragan and Bruno, two of the unit’s most experi-

**Most towns in southern Bosnia are battlegrounds between Muslim and Croat forces vying for second place in vicious Balkan civil war.**





# GRITIER THAN PEN



***Crouched in improvised bunker in former auto garage, Croat HVO soldier prepares to fire rifle grenade at Muslim fortification across the street.***

enced soldiers, to go to the company's well-stocked magazine and bring a Serb-made LAW rocket clone. Dragan then crawled into a covered trench

roughly 100 meters from the target and launched the rocket, while Bruno provided covering fire with a Chinese-made AK.

The rest of the HVO troops, spread out along a 200-meter front, loosed a fusillade of automatic weapons fire in what could best be described as the





**HVO soldier unloads his AK at Muslim bunker during house-to-house fighting that resulted in Croat capture of three houses in Gornji Vakuf.**

Croatian version of a "mad minute." The HVO soldiers were armed with a wide assortment of weapons ranging from Yugoslav 44mm M57 antitank rockets, Austrian Steyr SSG sniping rifles, MP5 submachine guns, Yugoslav M72AB1 squad automatic weapons (a Yugo variant of the RPK), and a Yugoslav M84 GPMG (a copy of the Russian PKM). The Croats handled their weapons with signs of some training and discipline: Commanders were able to maintain control over their troops, even during blistering return fire. Unlike their Muslim counterparts, all HVO soldiers in Mostar were in uniform, mostly Vietnam-era U.S. Army issue bought surplus by the Croats from warehouses in Germany.

When the firing stopped, Mirko got on the walkie-talkie and called down the line to check injuries, then asked his second-in-command, Bojan, to put together a recon team to assess their efforts.

Mirko said the HVO's problem is not gaining territory, but rather holding it. He explained that the Muslims have them outnumbered nearly two-to-one in many instances, and although his unit has high morale, many times morale alone is not enough. Indeed, less than 200 men — made up of both MPs, regular HVO troops and members of the Bruno Busic Brigade — hold this stretch of line. Mirko openly wonders what his guys would do if the Muslims had access to the range of weapons at his disposal.

Bojan came back to our position a

few minutes later with three soldiers in tow. We then made our way toward the bank building, through a series of properly dug slit trenches. Climbing up to the fifth-floor sniper's lair, we could see the side and front of the Muslim position.

Although smoke from a fire in one of the apartments obscured the view, with a spotting scope we were able to see what appeared to be a di-

rect hit on the apartment where the machine-gun nest was located. Unlike Sarajevo, where over the past 18 months the largely Muslim Bosnian army has lost battle after battle with Serb forces, Muslim units in Mostar, according to HVO troops, are better trained, have more weapons and continue to hold a large chunk of the city despite almost unceasing HVO artillery and ground assaults.

#### **Small-Town Sitrep**

The situation between HVO and Muslim troops fighting in the central Bosnian town of Gornji Vakuf isn't much different.

For the 700 HVO soldiers engaged there in house-to-house fighting with numerically superior Muslim forces, the recent arrival of six T-54 tanks couldn't have come at a better time. After weeks of non-stop fighting with Muslim units commanded by Iranian and Lebanese mercenaries, soldiers of the Dr. Ante Starcevic Brigade battling for control of Gornji Vakuf gained a small victory when they captured three houses.

Dragan, the brigade's commander (no relation to the Dragan in Mostar), said the HVO was able to win the new ground with a frontal assault by 20 soldiers backed by rocket and tank fire. "The Muslims are good fighters. We can pour lots of fire power onto their positions and they continue to fire back," Dragan said.

A second assault using one T-54 and 25 ground troops netted the HVO four Muslim prisoners, who gave

themselves up without firing a shot. The POWs were brought back to the Cafe Tin, a combination command headquarters, watering hole and barracks. There they were questioned by HVO personnel from the regional command in Prozor, a garrison town 40 kilometers away, then carted away to a central detention facility on the edge of town.

A British officer attached to the U.N. Protection Force (UNPROFOR) in Bosnia told me that routing HVO forces from Gornji Vakuf is a "No. 1 priority" for the Muslims. He told me that with Sarajevo nearly cut off from the rest of the country, the capture of Gornji Vakuf will allow the Bosnian Muslims to sit on top of Prozor. With that, he went on, they would have a complete communications and transportation link with Jablanica, Konjic and East Mostar.

However, he continued, the introduction of the T-54s will probably make up in firepower what the HVO lacks in manpower in their quest for new ground in Gornji Vakuf, and keep



**Yugo M-57 60mm mortar lays down harassing fire on Muslim positions. Incessant attacks and loud heavy metal music blasted at their lines are devised to keep Muslims on edge.**





### ***Croat squad leader points the way to cover after hit-and-run attack on Muslim position.***

the battle in high gear throughout the winter.

With a 60-year-old school teacher turned soldier as my guide, we ran through demolished and still-smoking houses, ducking sniper and automatic-weapons fire until we reached the newest front line.

There we dove into an improvised pillbox, where two HVO riflemen were blasting away with AKs at a Muslim position in the next house. The HVO soldiers openly worried that the Muslims would use an RPG or rifle-fired grenade on their position. One of them ran back to a garage on the next street and returned with another three soldiers, carrying a tripod-mounted Chinese machine gun.

They opened up, shredding the bushes four meters in front and collapsing the window frame around the Muslim position.

The return fire, however, was blistering, with a number of heavy-caliber bullets coming through the flimsy cinder-block walls of our position. "I would like to be able to call in a tank or mortar fire, but the command structure doesn't allow me to do so," said Darko, one of the HVO gunners.

I left the position and crawled through a series of slit trenches to another HVO position two blocks away. Old Soviet-made plastic-shelled land mines were everywhere. No one appeared interested in deactivating them. We passed an HVO mortar team firing away from a shallow pit.

According to Darko, his commanders — taking a cue from the successful Serb siege of Sarajevo — will soon position the T-54s on the high ground

overlooking Gornji Vakuf. This, he said, would prevent more "bloody street fighting." Indeed, HVO engineers had already begun building berms and other fortifications along the high mountain roads overlooking the town to provide defilade for the T-54s. However, as would be expected, Darko could not give me

a time frame when they would become operational.

If the battle between Muslim and Croat forces in Bosnia is for second place, then the nearly open warfare



### ***HVO soldier armed with Yugo M70AB2 variant searches for target during heavy fighting last August between Croat and Muslim forces in Mostar.***

between Serb and Croat forces south of Zagreb is for the whole enchilada.

On 14 September 1993 Zagreb was put on general alert. It wasn't quite London during the blitz, but on the previous day a couple of Serb-fired FROG-7 missiles landed near the airport (also home to the U.S. Army's 502nd MASH, attached to UNPROFOR), killing four people.

Several international air carriers announced they have suspended all flights to and from Croatia. Zagreb radio began reporting heavy fighting between Serb and Croat forces in

Karlovac, a mid-sized city 30 minutes south of the capital. People have started talking about a renewed war between the two former Yugoslav republics.

In Karlovac, I found the situation much as advertised. Theodor Frundt, a German photojournalist, accompanied me. Heavy shelling the night before had shattered storefronts, forced the population into bomb shelters and left only the Croatian military to wander the streets.

The atmosphere was tense. We drove five minutes to the nearby village of Turanj, where we were forced to run a gauntlet of Serb sniper fire before nearly driving head-on into a Croat T-34 tank. Turanj was a mini-Stalingrad. Every building looked as if Godzilla had come over for lunch. Neighborhood-to-neighborhood, street-to-street, house-to-house, hand-to-hand fighting had reduced Turanj to a living hell.

We passed two more Croat T-34 tanks parked along what's left of Turanj's main street as we walked to the U.N. checkpoint separating Serbs from Croats. To keep the warring factions physically apart, the United Nations uses a few leaking sandbags, six exhausted French soldiers, a mixed-breed dog with one good leg and an APC with two flat tires.

Sporadic machine-gun fire came from up the street. After a quick debriefing, my colleague and I ran across the street to spend the afternoon with five Croat army military policemen, who shared a lunch of walnuts and wine. As dusk approached, the MPs began to gather their equipment for the 10-meter run back to the U.N. post and a night off.

The first two made it successfully and took up positions behind sandbags to offer covering fire if the rest of us needed it.

*Continued on page 77*





# ***FAST STRIKE*** **ON CHIMOIO**

**C Squadron**, Rhodesian Special Air Service (SAS), an elite fighting force about 150 strong, had been aware of a large terrorist base in Mozambique named Chimoio, and another similar one called Tembue, for some time. Like American troops in Vietnam, who watched the Viet Cong vanish into neighboring Cambodia, Rhodesian forces had experienced the frustration of hammering their enemy in firefights inside Rhodesia, only to have them slither away into the sanctuary of a "neutral" neighboring country. And, like in Vietnam, getting the bureaucrats' permission to attack into the neigh-

ZANLA terrorist who had left Chimoio only two weeks earlier. He was shown the model and spilled his guts, confirming intelligence estimates.

### Biggest ZANLA Base

The intelligence the prisoner provided was detailed, revealing and alarming. The camp was the largest and most important ZANLA base in Mozambique — the headquarters and nerve center of ZANLA leader Robert Mugabe's war machine. Mugabe himself, having fled Rhodesia to avoid being prosecuted for advocating political violence, directed his operations from a high-command head-

quarters in a farmhouse within the camp. Thousands of ZANLA, returning from training in Tanzania, China and Ethiopia, went to Chi-

guese settlers, tents, and grass huts were scattered throughout the complex, providing accommodation and storage facilities for the guerrillas. A large FRELIMO (*Frente de Libertacao de Mocambique* [Mozambique army]) base was close by, suggesting additional protection. Thousands of enemy were massed in the camp, complacent in the belief that the distance from the border, their anti-aircraft defenses, and the proximity of civilians and FRELIMO would protect them from attack.

SAS officers first presented their plan for the attack, using the spectacular scale model to point out critical aspects, to Rhodesian Combined Operations Headquarters (ComOps) in November 1976. ComOps was impressed but noncommittal. A year passed while ever more terrorists conducted their operations inside Rhodesia and slipped back across the border to safety in Chimoio. Ongoing aerial photography placed the number of terrorists at Chimoio as approximately 6,000, by far the largest concentration of enemy ever to be in Mozambique

## Rhodesian SAS Blitz Terrorist Nerve Center

by Robert MacKenzie

boring country was difficult.

However, while American politicians largely prohibited ground attacks on NVA (North Vietnamese Army) safe havens in Cambodia or Laos, thus hamstringing their military's effectiveness, the Rhodesian high command was persuadable — or at least Brian Robinson, the SAS commander, thought so. In 1976 Robinson ordered his intelligence officer to investigate Chimoio with a view to attacking it.

High-altitude overflights revealed a huge complex 56 miles inside Mozambique. Thirteen separate camps were identified, and one air photo showed 700 ZANLA (Zimbabwe African National Liberation Army) training on one rifle range alone. Robinson tasked his intelligence section with making a huge, three-dimensional contoured model of the complex as an aid in planning an attack, and also to help convince the brass of the necessity for action. As the model was completed, Rhodesian security forces captured a

Armed with FN FAL rifle and FN MAG 58 GPMG, troopers from 1st Battalion, Rhodesian African Rifles patrol for ZANLA terrorists. Until raid on Chimoio, bases in Mozambique provided ZANLA a safe haven. Photo: Rhodesian Ministry of Information



Commander of original C Squadron SAS, Lt. Gen. Peter Walls, who had operational control for duration of Rhodesian War, shares moment with regimental Sgt. Maj. Tumbare. Regarding Operation Dingo, Walls noted, "We are fighting for the existence of law and order here and you cannot just sit back and let bases like that exist. Yes, we will continue to operate behind enemy lines." Photo: Rhodesian Department of Information

moio before deploying into Rhodesia.

The main part of Chimoio covered three square miles. In addition, there were many satellite camps with a variety of functions, including a training center for women combatants. The enemy was extremely well dug-in, with an extensive system of trenches and bunkers protected by anti-aircraft positions and observation towers. Farm buildings once owned by Portu-

guese settlers, tents, and grass huts were scattered throughout the complex, providing accommodation and storage facilities for the guerrillas. At that stage of the war, "Politicization" of Rhodesia's black population, mainly through especially brutal murder, torture and rape, continued to increase in rural areas.

A full year after their first attempt, the SAS made another presentation of their attack plan. Perhaps because faith in a political solution for the war was waning, or perhaps because the Geneva Convention had failed to bring a cease-





Logistically strapped by international embargo, Rhodesia pressed into service every available aircraft for insertion, including these aging Alouette IIIs. By running shy on fuel on the haul back, they could carry 500 pounds of captured weapons and a few men. Photo: SOF file

fire and the war was intensifying, a green light was given for the operation, to be code-named "Dingo." In addition to Chimoio, it was decided to hit Tembue, occupied by another 4,000 guerrillas, immediately afterward.

As both bases were too deep inside Mozambique for an attacking force to infiltrate into position, Op Dingo planners decided that parachute assaults, supplemented by what helicopter resources were available, were the only way to get enough troops on the ground to make ground attack feasible.

A few years earlier, trying to counter enemy tactics, Robinson and his squadron had developed a method for vertical envelopment that they called "the Box." Years of fighting African guerrillas had shown that they fled into the bush in whatever direction they happened to be facing when surprised, no matter how well "trained" they supposedly were — forget planned escape routes, forget defensive positions. Even a small but organized attacking force could rout a

large group of guerrillas, who most often flung away their weapons and legged it. This undisciplined response however, made killing the guerrillas difficult.

Stop groups on likely escape routes often were not productive because fleeing terrorists seldom used them. The Box, using slow sticks (paratroops jumping at the rate of one per second) from C-47 "ParaDaks" flying carefully coordinated dropping runs, landed troops all around a target, hopefully making a complete, if rather thin, perimeter, surrounding most of the enemy. A slightly modified version of this tactic was chosen for Op Dingo.

Obtaining sufficient aircraft for Dingo was a major difficulty. Part of the Rhodesian air force was required to support normal ongoing counterterrorist operations inside Rhodesia, and although a few South African-crewed helicopters were made available, they were prohibited from flying anywhere near the combat area. Ultimately a force of some 35 Alouette

III G-cars (troop carriers) and K-cars (gunships mounting a 20mm cannon firing from a side door) was assembled, along with virtually all of Rhodesia's ground-attack fighters and bombers. Six C-47 Dakotas were required for the parachute assault, with several more being used to establish an admin base nearby.

#### Wide Coverage — Thin Coverage

When all the figures were added up, they produced an impressive total by Rhodesian standards, but even so, there were barely enough to do the job, and there was precious little room for error. Too many G-cars hit, for instance, and some of the troops would have a long march home through 90km of hostile and alerted countryside. The loss of even 10 aircraft would cripple the Rhodesian air force.

Gradually the plan for Chimoio took on its final dimensions. Of the estimated 6,000 ZANLA at Chimoio, 4,000 were known to be fully trained and armed. Conventional military doctrine prescribes a three-to-one superiority for an attacking force. Since even using every available aircraft, the Rho-

desians could get no more than 200 troops to the target at any one time, they didn't exactly meet the recommended ratio. Every potential advantage in weaponry, tactics and psychology had to be studied for applicability.

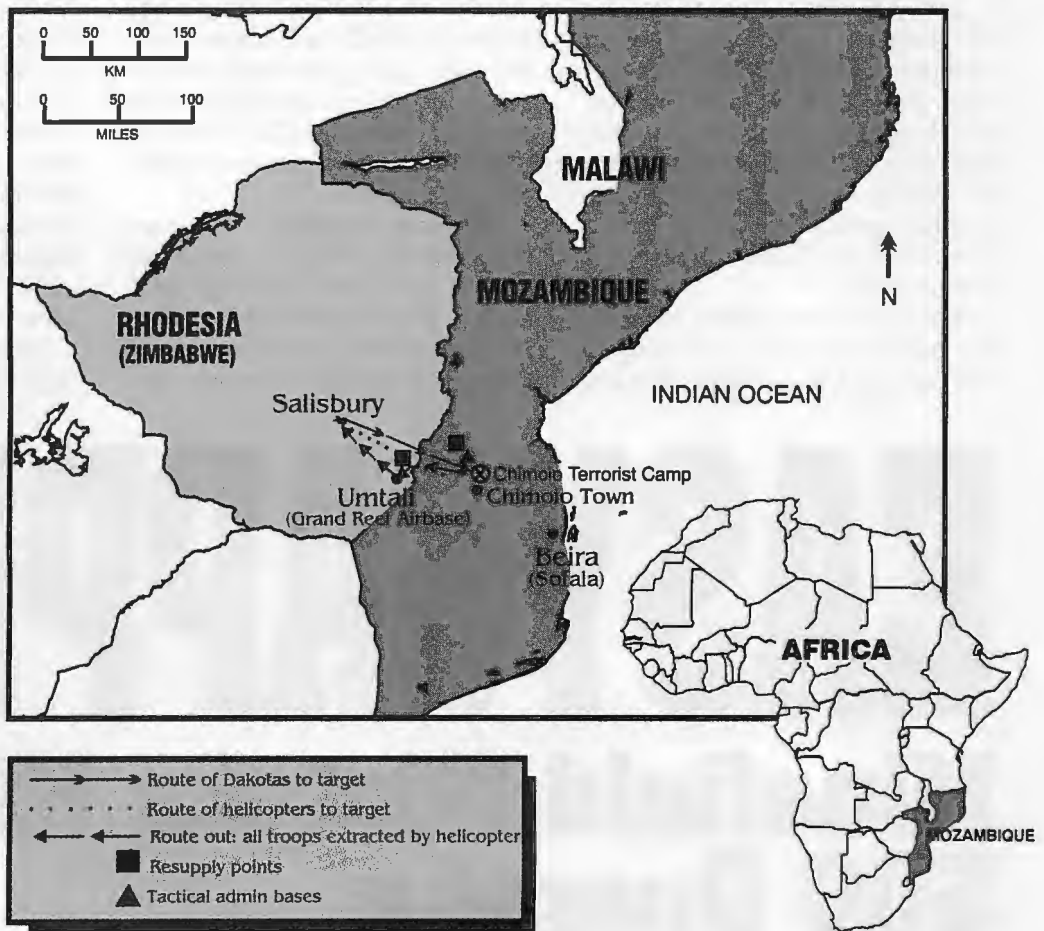
Surprise would be all-important: To help achieve it, security for the operation was exceptionally tight. For example, forces taking part were only assembled and briefed the day before the raid, and the unusual (for Rhodesia) measure of isolating those forces and cutting off telephone communication was taken. To fool enemy listening posts, a high-altitude overflight by a chartered DC-8 airliner was planned to take place at the time that all terrorists in Chimoio were assembled for morning muster. Planners hoped that the assembled enemy, who normally ran at the sound of any aircraft, would relax when they saw high-altitude contrails, and that the airliner's engine noise would disguise the sound



Munitions captured from one of uncountable caches at Chimoio. What could be hauled back became spoils of war: What could not became a column of smoke. Photo: author's collection

of approaching attack planes.

At H-hour, eight Hawker Hunter fighter-bombers would roar in with bombs and cannons. They would be closely followed by four B-57 Canberra bombers at low altitude, six aging Vampire jets from higher altitude, and 12 Cessna 337s (called "Lynx" by the Rhodesians — and



"0-2s" by the USAF) carrying bombs, rockets and machine guns. Before the last of the strike aircraft left the area, 97 SAS and 48 Rhodesian Light Infantry (RLI) paratroopers would land on two sides of Chimoio, while 40 helicopter-borne RLI troops in 10 G-cars were put down on the third side. Fire from 10 K-car gunships would attempt to box in the fourth side. A command and control helicopter carrying the SAS commander and his air force counterpart would monitor the battle from an orbit overhead. The 10 South African G-cars

would ferry supplies to an admin base to be established nearby by other paratroopers.

Tests were done in bush terrain similar to that at Chimoio to establish the best method of bomb delivery, timing and sequencing of arriving planes. The SAS and air force parachute dispatchers honed the Box technique.

Complicated radio net diagrams and frequencies were printed and superb air photographs with a grid superimposed on them were readied for issue to all pilots and ground commanders.

Finally, after months of preparation and last minute updates, the attack force was assembled and put into isolation at New Sarum air force base to receive their final orders and complete battle preparation. A day later, on 23 November 1977, the armada lifted off, and phase one of Operation Dingo got underway.

As A troop commander, I stood in the door of my Dakota while red and green tracer rounds zipped by, signaling the beginning of the battle for Chimoio 500 feet below. The single jet overflight had indeed fooled the ZANLA terrorists assembled for morning muster. They had, as planned, reassembled and were grouped together when the first bombs fell at 0750. Huge columns of black smoke and dust enveloped the camp and I watched as thousands of terrorists ran around in the bush below. I saw the last

*Continued on page 83*



**MACV-SOG**, I Corp, 5th SF Group, 1st SF, Mai Loc, Forward Observation Base (FOB) 1, Summer 1968: Being in Studies and Observation Group (SOG) was not just an endless series of Recon and Spike Team (RT/ST) operations. There was more to it than running targets in the Prairie Fire (Laos) and Nickel Steel (North Vietnam) AOs.

When back in our FOB, it was military business as usual. Our camp at Mai Loc was a mess; underwater and

antitank mine first by digging a hole and burying the 24-inch diameter monster. After turning the switch counterclockwise, she was ready to go. This mine did not weigh 250 pounds. It took 250 pounds of pressure to detonate it, i.e., a tank.

The Bouncing Betty is a bit more complicated. It looks like a smoke grenade or Willy Pete (white phosphorous) canister. The M16 is buried below ground level and has three metal prongs that stick out of the top. Once

flashback and for a moment thought I was lying on the beach at home catching some Zs.

There was black smoke everywhere. Off to my left was a leg with a boot on it. *I must be dreaming. What's that doing here?* After a few minutes I realized what had happened. Beck had been arming an M16 and set it off. He was history. As the voices grew louder I started to feel some pain ... sharp, stinging pain on my back, legs and head. *And what is all this*

# EASYSAPPERS

## Minefield Mistake KIAs SOG Operator

by J. L. Junkins

muddy, there was never anyone around to take care of it. Initially, all of us on RTs were running operations back to back — get a briefing, move into the target, come out, do it again. So a new camp was built across the strip from the old camp, south about 300-400 yards. And after Lang Vei was overrun in February '68 by North Vietnamese armor, setting up defensive positions at the new camp was never-ending.

One morning after chow, our CO, Major Clyde Sincere, walked up and asked if I'd like to lay some mines on the perimeter. Even though I wasn't trained in demolition/engineering, one found oneself doing everything in Special Forces, and I mean everything. I was to work with another guy, John Beck, who showed me how to arm the 250-pound antitank mine and ever-popular M16 Bouncing Betty.

We made our way out to the berm and went to work. The plan was to lay two lanes of mines, one 250-pounder surrounded by 6 M16s, a total of 35 mines in one lane. My lane was closest to the berm. Beck worked in back of me on another lane. I'd lay the

it was armed and the safety pin pulled, it was almost ready to go. When Luke the Gook stepped on one of these, it still wouldn't detonate; Luke would hear an audible *click*, which was the mine arming itself. Then when Luke lifted his slimy little sandal off the three prongs ... *Boom. Sin loi du mammy.*

Beck and I worked at a safe but steady pace. You can never be too careful when dicking around with mines. We broke for chow about midday and afterward went to my hootch to partake in some of the herb that made one a bit *dinki-dau*. To this day I'm not sure if the joints we smoked were responsible for what happened next, but back in the minefield I told Beck something that would haunt me for the rest of my life: *"That weed's so good ... man, it'll kill ya ..."*

I was on my knees, hunched over the last of the M16s in one group when there was a deafening explosion. I was thrown forward on the ground and out for the count. In a dream-like state I heard voices ... *"Don't move ... freeze ... stay where you are ... don't move ..."* I had a

*sticky stuff?* I looked up on the berm and the entire camp was standing there, looking and yelling at me not to move.

At that moment I knew exactly what was happening. I was flat on the ground with two or three Bouncing Bettys under me. Somewhere. My right arm was on top of the antitank mine, and I thought I could feel three steel prongs under my chest. I knew that down around my family jewels there was another set of prongs. Outstanding situation.

Clyde's voice was now really clear to me. *"Get your head clear, your shit together and take stock of what's going on. Are you lying on any armed mines?"* Well, I lay there for what seemed like an hour. It was. The longer I lay there, the more pissed off I got at myself. *Move. Get up you pussy and walk out of here. Do it.* Meanwhile Clyde yelled to me ... *"You're the only person who can make this decision."*

I lifted both arms off the ground and set them under me like I was going to do a pushup. I yelled to the berm, *"I'm getting up now."* Everyone ducked behind the berm. *Great. If I get up I could die. If I don't get*

*up I could still die, and as much as I dig 'Nam ... fuck this shit ... I don't want to die here.*

I went from a pushup position to standing, looked down and realized I had been lying on two M16s. The one by my head had been to the left of my left ear. I was KO'ed looking to my right. The one under my chest was not armed. I stood there for a minute and backed up into a safety lane. No need to think about where I wanted to be. *I'm outta here.* As I went over the berm,

I knew for a fact I had shit and pissed in my fatigues. The stinging pain on my backside was shrapnel and bone fragments from Beck, along with his blood.

My knees gave out. I came to in Clyde's hootch. Clyde sent me back into the minefield to pick up Beck's leg and to show some other guys where the mines were. I picked up Beck's leg and felt something in his pocket — the layout of the minefield and a pack of joints. I kept the joints but

me up and took me to a hootch and a shower. I stayed in the shower for an hour or so. Someone was in there with me, I don't know who. But they pulled bone off my back and out of my scalp. The few shrapnel pieces that hit me were too small to fuck with, no Purple Hard-on today.

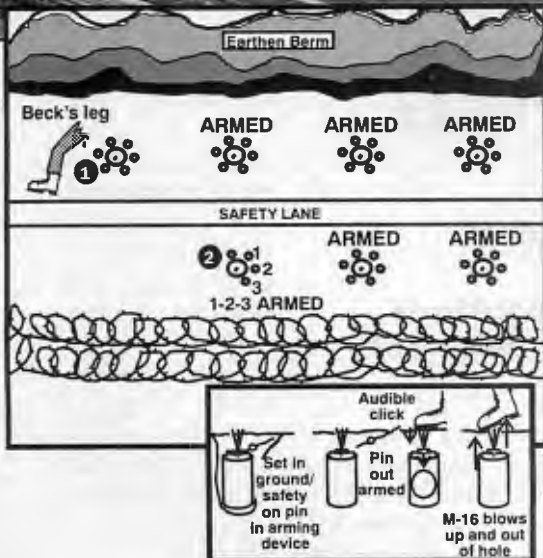
After the shower I shuffled back to the hootch, got dressed, sat down and fired one up for sweet Jesus. One helluva long day. They all seemed longer. I made my way over to the EM/Officer's

club, walked in and felt the silence and icy stares. No one said a word to me. Nothing. I found a chair in the corner, ordered a whiskey and listened to Hendrix wail "... Purple haze all in my brain, lately things just don't seem the same ..." No shit Jimi, tell me something I don't know.

Years later I'm sitting in a Denny's having breakfast with Tilt Meyer, RT Idaho, FOB 2. He told me no one knew what to say ... "You were the guy in the minefield, what could we say?" Well whatever, I just try to block out that I was ever there. But man, I still

get nervous turning on a light switch or screwing in a light bulb.

*J. L. Junkins is a four-tour Vietnam vet. He was medevaced out in April 1970 after breaking his back during a helicopter extraction on an operation in Laos. ✕*



Aerial view of FOB 1 at Mai Loc. Photo taken in 1970 after base turned over to 101st Airborne (rotary wing assets are visible north of airstrip). Minefield was being emplaced on southeast corner in front of bunker.

Left: Large inset shows minefield layout at time of accident. No. 1 is author's location after being knocked unconscious; No. 2 is Beck's location when mine detonated. Small inset shows deployment and detonation sequence of M16 Bouncing Betty. Photo: Ron Zeiss

didn't smoke them. The map went to a demo expert. Clyde put me on a chopper for FOB 2, Phu Bai. "Take a couple of days off and clear your head of this shit," he said. Feed my head was more like it.

When I landed in Phu Bai, a jeep came out to the pad to pick



# CLINTON'S SECOND VIETNAM SELLOUT

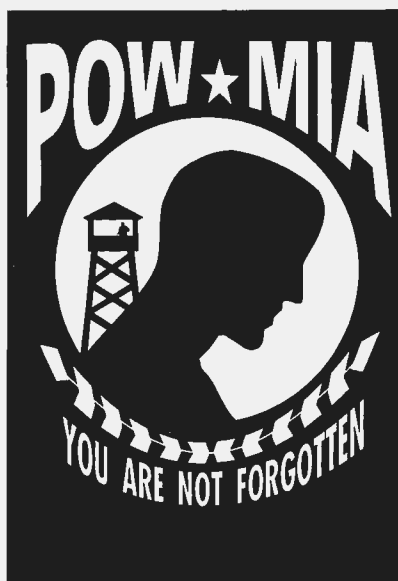
**American** prisoners abandoned in Southeast Asia and their families are once again being betrayed. On 14 July 1993, President Bill Clinton partially lifted the U.S. trade embargo on Vietnam, claiming significant progress in accounting for MIAs. However, he ignored the discovery of a second intelligence document in Moscow that showed Hanoi had held back numerous American prisoners.

For the fourth time since 1973, U.S. servicemen trapped in Vietnam, the mountains of Laos, and the vast *gulags* of China and the former Soviet Union are being written off, even as numerous records are being uncovered in U.S. and Soviet archives showing that some had survived. For example, a 7 January 1988 Joint Casualty Resolution Center cable from Bangkok stated that in August 1987 the Vietnamese were considering releasing three American prisoners to retired U.S. Army General John Vessey, including Morgan Donahue; the cable noted the three were held "in a location on the Lao-Vietnam border during the talks."

A Soviet GRU military intelligence document made public by the Pentagon in early September quoted remarks once made at a North Vietnamese communist party meeting as indicating Hanoi held some 735 POWs in late 1970, but only acknowledged holding 368 at the time. Within two weeks the current Russian government apologized to Vietnam for revealing this document. "We regret the appearance of this unreliable information oc-

curred at this moment when the process of normalization of Vietnam-U.S. relations is coming to a conclusion," a Russian Embassy spokesman in Hanoi was quoted by a Reuter correspondent.

Additionally, a May 1992 document sent to the Pentagon's Joint Task Force/Full Accounting (JTFFA) from Russia's Ministry of Internal Affairs lists 41 names of American prisoners shown on Russian records as having been alive in captivity in Indochina. This roster includes a number of men still officially carried as missing, such as Air Force Sergeant Melvin Holland who was captured at Lima Site 85 in Laos. Information from this Russian document was never revealed by the Pentagon to families of those missing men listed. Moreover, through its continuous claims of never holding records on those listed U.S. servicemen, the



## Politics For Profit Abandons America's POW/MIAs

by Al Santoli

Photos courtesy  
Garnett "Bill" Bell

Vietnamese government has lied outright.

The specious rush to write off these missing men has been orchestrated by an odd alliance — former peaceniks in the Clinton administration, international businessmen seeking to profit from Vietnam's oil and slave labor, Kissinger-era bureaucrats in our State and Defense departments, along with senior military officers eager to "put the Vietnam War behind us."

In order to facilitate a quick resolution, the JTFFA has forced into retirement the most experienced and competent POW/MIA investigator in Asia, 52-year-old Garnett "Bill" Bell. As the initial chief of the JTFFA investigative office in Hanoi, he became expendable last year after testifying before the U.S. Senate Select Committee on POW/MIAs that prisoners were alive in captivity after 1973.



Armed Vietnamese assist U.S. investigators during search of former POW camp in swamps of Darlac province, 1989.



Indigenous personnel and combloc Mi17-type helicopter on 1989 POW/MIA investigation along Laotian border in Vietnam.



After scaling Thud Ridge in 1988, POW/MIA investigator and former chief of Hanoi JTFFA office Garnett "Bill" Bell (center) enjoys a breather with two associates. Bell was "retired" by Pentagon brass following his 1992 testimony before U.S. Senate Select Committee that POWs were alive in captivity after 1973.



American POW/MIA investigators and indigenous assistants wade to reported crash site, Bac Thai province, northern Vietnam, 1988.

Additionally, while conducting 1993 oral-history interviews with veteran North Vietnamese military officers such as Colonel Pham Van Ban and Col. Nguyen Cong Trung, Bell found that prisoner exchanges occurred before the Vietnam War's end. For example, former Viet Cong "justice minister" Truong Nhu Tang admits he was traded for Americans held in the south. Hanoi's apparent objective was to hold back scores — if not hundreds — of prisoners as hostages for war reparations, to barter for communists held by the Saigon government before it was overrun, or perhaps to motivate the United States to accept communist military conquests in Laos and Cambodia.

After Bell's reports were reviewed in Hawaii by JTFFA's commander, U.S. Army Major General Thomas Needham, Bell was removed from the oral-history task and replaced by 21- to 25-year-old soldiers with no previous field experience. The new head of JTFFA's Hanoi detachment is Lieu-

tenant Colonel John Cray, whose biography shows him to be an infantry officer with no intelligence training or Southeast Asia-POW/MIA experience.

Almost immediately after assuming his Hanoi desk, Cray praised the Vietnamese communists for "better than ever" cooperation. And, without explanation, the list of "discrepancy" (last known alive) cases was dropped from 92 to 80.

As Bell was cleaning out his desk in Bangkok, the family of Warrant Officer Gregory Crandall, missing in Laos since 1971, was in Washington, D.C., desperately seeking a meeting with Clinton. They were trying to stop the Pentagon from declaring Crandall dead, based on a single tooth found at a crash site in Laos. In addition, an ID of one of Crandall's crew members was found in pristine condition at the site — a patently staged event by the Pathet Lao government.

Ignoring their protests, Pentagon officials told Crandall's family they were going to bury the tooth at Arlington National Cemetery with or without the next of kin's approval. The controversial policy of declaring missing men dead based on one or a few teeth was protested by Dr. Ellis Kerley, a renowned forensics specialist and former lab director of the Pentagon's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii (CILHI). As a result, Dr. Kerley was removed from CILHI and replaced with a dentist who lacks his forensics expertise.

The most prominent POW/MIA spokesman for the Clinton administration is Assistant Secretary of State Winston Lord, Henry Kissinger's deputy at the 1973 Paris peace accords. More troubling was Lord's role (as described in Kissinger's *The White House Years*) in coordinating the 1970 cover-up of U.S. Special Forces, Air Force and CIA personnel lost, cap-

Continued on page 72



EXCLUSIVE

# RANGERS AMBU

**3 October 1993** — bloody Sunday. Young men died and were wounded in the back alleys of Mogadishu, Somalia, executing a flawed mission in a running-sore conflict that makes no military or political sense. They were brave, good men — America's finest — hung out to die because those at the top, from the White House to the State Department to the Pentagon to the senior commander in the field, were politically and militarily incompetent.

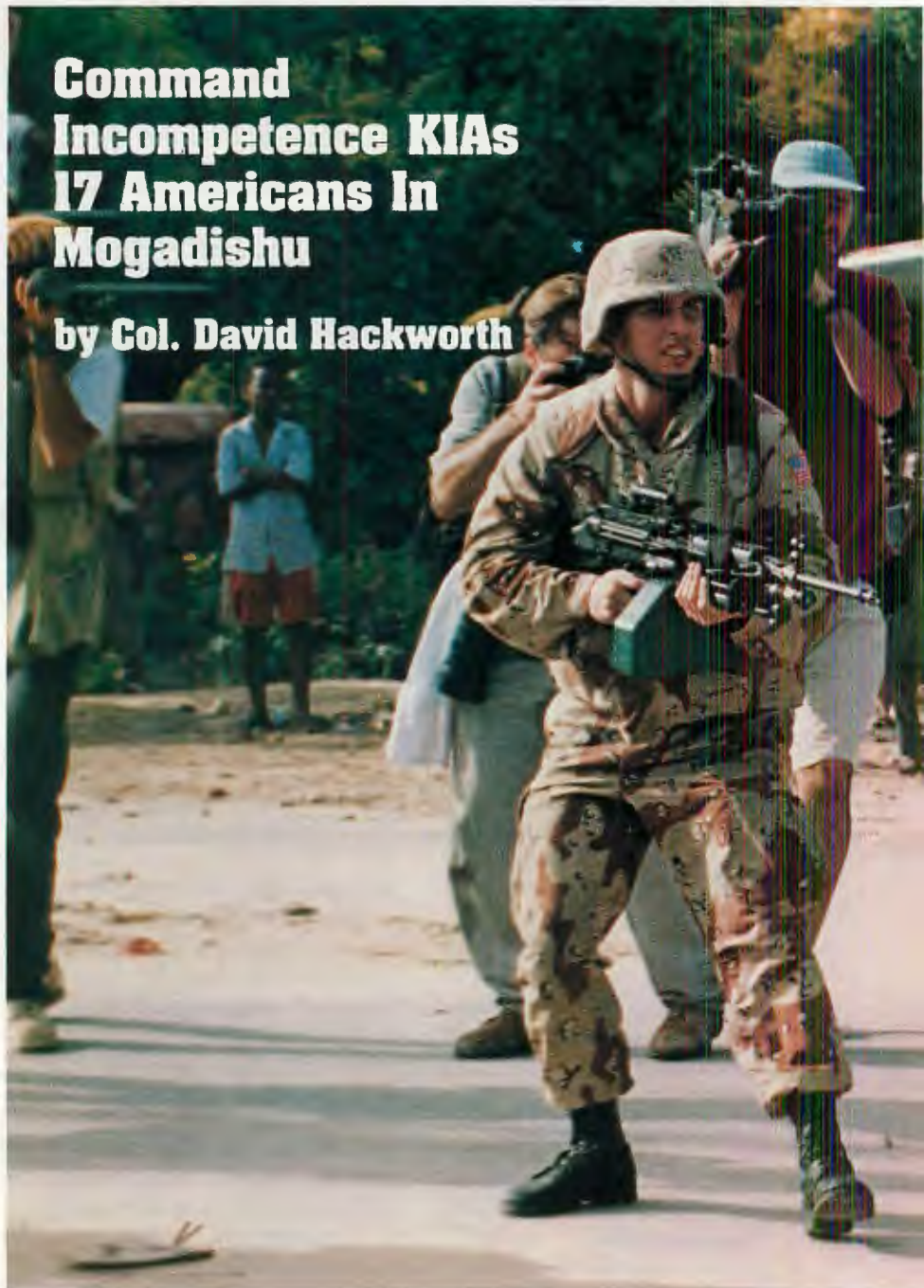
The Mogadishu bloodbath — where 17 warriors were killed, almost 80 wounded and Blackhawk pilot Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant captured — started as a routine U.S. Army Ranger search-and-seizure raid that quickly became a blundering nightmare. The moment the Rangers arrived over the objective area on Special Operations Blackhawk choppers, the op turned to shit, and for the next 16 hours it only got deeper.

Acting on a hot intelligence tip provided by Somali spies to our CIA and confirmed by radio intercepts, the Rangers struck at 1430 hours in a dangerous daylight assault. The elite light infantry force's mission was to raid a meeting being held by Somali warlord General Mohamed Farrah Aidid's top lieutenants at the city's Olympic Hotel, nab the participants and get the hell out of Aidid's stronghold.

The Rangers moved by chopper into the objective area, where their guerrilla enemy was waiting and began hammering the assault force with automatic weapons fire. As the Rangers rappelled down 50-foot ropes, slugs snapped around them — beginning fire from Aidid's guerrillas in surrounding windows, rooftops and doorways. The chatter of automatic weapons filled the air as the Rangers landed on the hotel's roof, while more Rangers dismounted across the street to take up covering positions. Even with the loss of surprise, the Ranger team functioned like a Rolex watch, and within minutes nabbed 24 of Aidid's gang, including his foreign minister.

## Command Incompetence KIA's 17 Americans In Mogadishu

by Col. David Hackworth



In less than an hour the force was ready for extraction. They hunkered down, returned fire and waited for the link-up from a ground convoy in Humvees — the High-Mobility Multi-purpose Vehicles (HMMV) that have replaced the jeep — and trucks that were speeding toward them through the city's narrow streets from the Ranger base at



# SHED IN SOMALIA



Mogadishu's airport. The plan was simple: Strike fast, hit with shock action, grab prisoners and split on the ground convoy.

Then the first glitch occurred, which turned an operation scheduled to take a few minutes into 16 hours of hell: The Ranger convoy was ambushed about a mile outside their

U.S. Army brass is guilty of violating basic war-fighting principles in Somalia — underestimating their enemy, poor contingency planning and no workable command-and-control with U.S. SpecOps and other U.N. units.

Photo: AP/Wide World





The photo that defined the debacle: Dead U.S. Blackhawk helicopter crewman is dragged through streets of Mogadishu by cheering Somalis. Photo: Paul Watson/*The Toronto Star*/Sygma

base. The lead vehicle was hit and set on fire by RPG and AK-47 fire with three Rangers wounded. But the ground link up force pressed on and fought its way out of the ambush — taking fire the entire time — and joined their comrades at the hotel at 1610 hours.

Then, just as the raiding force and their 19 POWs prepared to return to base, the op turned from bad to worse. Murphy's Law — if something can go wrong, it will — a warrior's worst fear, struck. A Blackhawk flying support was shot down by a combination of rocket and machine gun fire, and crashed near the hotel.

Ranger commander, Lt. Col. Danny McKnight, a professional SpecOps leader with almost two decades of experience under his pistol belt, switched to an alternate plan and moved his forces to assist the downed crew and secure the bird. An operation like this is routine stuff for Rangers, who are repeatedly drilled until the task is second nature. McKnight called back to base and asked for more help. A scratch platoon-sized Ranger force made up of cooks, bakers and candlestick makers piled into lightly armored Humvees and shot to the rescue. This force, too, got hit by AK-47 and RPG fire at the same spot the ground linkup force was initially hit and was forced to return to base.

Meanwhile the warriors from the 3rd Battalion, 75th Rangers and Green Beret Delta Force quickly secured the bird and dug in to await the arrival of the main relief column from the 10th Mountain Division Quick Reaction Force (QRF), composed of a rifle company on standby about five miles away. This shaky contingency plan called for a ground linkup with the 80 Rangers and 12 Delta personnel in not more than one hour. That is, if all went according to plan, which seldom happens on the battlefield.

### Slow Quick Reaction Force

The QRF, Charlie Company, 2/14 Infantry Battalion, wasn't quick and wasn't responsive. These Somalia veterans — top troops in their own right — got the word to move, but they weren't suited for the killing game that was to follow. And again, good men were placed at high risk without proper protection. At 1800 hours, the QRF loaded into Humvees and trucks and moved out toward the trapped Rangers. Their only protection from guerrilla automatic weapons and rocket fire and from a foe who knew every crook and cranny of the battlefield was the flak jacket each man wore.

Aidid's people were hiding in buildings and rooftops and had the advantage of fighting on their own rabbit-warren-like turf. The QRF force, 200 soldiers total, would have had more protection if they were driving Ford Escorts along the fire-swept route which led to the cut-off Rangers. They travelled only a mile from the airport, to the K4 traffic circle — the same place the Ranger column was hit — ran into a crossfire ambush and were hammered from both sides of the road.

The QRF fought their way through the ambush and pushed on for 400 more yards, but couldn't go any farther. The dusk was lit up by tracers and the flash of RPGs exploding as confusion reigned. After a stiff 30-minute firefight, the QRF CO, Lt. Col. Lawrence Casper, wisely



Somalis only understand violence. Here Marine Staff Sgt. Ken Haugen explains "no carry" rule to 15-year-old youth caught packing this pistol. Photo: Reuters/Bettmann



## WHY THE OPERATION WENT BAD

- Defense Secretary Aspin refused requests from U.S. commander in Mogadishu for more combat troops and armor.
- Incompetent general on the ground.
- Flawed command lines between United States and United Nations and between U.S. forces in Somalia and U.S. Special Operations Command.
- Poor tactical planning by U.S. commanders.
- Inadequate training of U.N. forces.
- Dependence on high-tech weapons in an urban area.
- Ranger CO failed to alert Quick Reaction Force (QRF), but called on his Ranger reserve that was too light to do the job.
- Daylight helicopter raid in an urban area. No target is that hot. Vietnam proved that COs must be patient when fighting guerrillas, especially a master of guerrilla warfare like Aidid. Haste kills people. It took 10,000 downed choppers to teach us this lesson in Vietnam, won't we ever learn?

— D.H.

Roaring down Mogadishu's shell-splattered streets in unarmored vehicles is terminally foolish. After suffering one KIA, a handful of wounded and the loss of several vehicles, Casper realized they were in a futile, no-win game and ordered a retreat back to the safety of the airport. The troops called the run back, "The Mogadishu Mile."

The 10th Mountain Division warriors were troubled they could not reach their surrounded Ranger comrades, and mad, damn mad, they were thrown to Aidid's wolves as cannon fodder. Meanwhile, back at the killing field, the Rangers hung on. For 13 more hours, the Ranger force slugged it out in close-in urban warfare — the toughest form of combat and most expensive in terms of casualties. All the high-tech weapons in the U.S. military's arsenal couldn't help them. It was man against man, rifle against rifle. Only courage and spirit got the Rangers through one of the most bitter fights fought in their distinguished history.

Casper meanwhile went back to the drawing board to find, assemble and organize armored vehicles that would allow his force to punch through to the encircled Rangers without paying a high price. Valuable time was lost while they patched together a scratch force of 30 U.N. armored vehicles, mostly Russian-made armored personnel carriers (APCs), from Pakistani and Malaysian units that would give the relief force decent protection. "A" Company, 2/14th Infantry Battalion, got the honor of attempting the third rescue mission and saddled up in the APCs.

Jumping off at midnight, they encountered great confusion. Bullets zinged and slapped off vehicles, RPGs roared



decided to turn back, realizing this was an impossible mission. Without air cover and armored vehicles, the troops were like sitting ducks in the center of an artillery impact area.

Marines patrol old town Mogadishu during initial phases of Operation Restore Hope. Marines and their heavy equipment, including attack helicopters and main battle tanks, were pulled out after original mission was accomplished and light infantry units took their place. Photo: AP/Wide World

and exploded as U.N. and American gunners blasted back. Fighting in the dark in the center of a city, exchanging fire with hit-and-run guerrillas is as dangerous as it gets. Making matters worse, "A" Company's U.N. comrades had vastly lower levels of training, skill and fire-in-the-belly, and they lacked high-quality night vision devices.

Further compounding command-and-control was the inability to communicate. Each APC was an armor-plated, rolling Tower of Babel. Few Malaysians or Pakis spoke English. It was mostly hand and arm signals inside of dark "tracks." A few U.S. drivers were scared out of their brains. In one case, it's been reported that an American threatened to shoot a Pakistani driver whose guts were running on empty and who wanted to go home. "Keep going or grow cold," was the word. He kept going.

### Second Chopper Down

Then Murphy struck again, this time with a double whammy. The ground fire near the downed chopper was running red hot. Sniper fire from trees, rooftops and RPG fire coming from every direction forced the Rangers to go to ground and take whatever cover they could find around the crashed chopper. Then a second Blackhawk went down south of the hotel. Aidid's people were employing machine guns in triangular ambushes just as the Viet Cong did in shooting down thousands of helicopters during the Vietnam War. The second bird crashed too far away from the main Ranger group for them to aid the downed crew — besides the Rangers had their hands full just trying to survive. Durant was captured where the second chopper crashed, and the rest of his crew was killed.

Once the second chopper went down the trapped Rangers came under increasingly heavier pressure from Aidid's fighters. Apparently emboldened by the success of knocking down two U.S. birds, they attacked with more and more daring. They were set for the kill, with a seemingly unlim-



# OUT OF SOMALIA!

**W**e've been down this bloody track before: In 1944 at Anzio, Italy, the 1st Ranger Battalion was destroyed because of a similarly flawed plan and dumb high-level brass; near Osan, Korea, in 1950, two companies of Task Force Smith were cut to ribbons by a North Korean Force 20 times its size because the brass didn't get it right; at An Ninh, in South Vietnam in 1965, a large Viet Cong force surrounded the 2/502nd Parachute Battalion, which didn't have artillery support because the CO thought that fighter aircraft alone could do the job. They couldn't.

Troops bled unnecessarily at Desert One in Iran in 1980, when the White House and Pentagon botched a Special Operation's raid that became a deadly disaster; Beirut followed in 1983, 244 Marines died because the top brass from USMC Commandant General P. X. Kelly to European commander Gen. Bernard Rogers to the ground commander, Colonel Tim Geheraty, didn't do the basic job of protecting their men from terrorists.

It's always the same. Young men, America's warriors, are sent on stupid missions without decent planning, the right stuff or capable backup to get them out when things turn ugly. And they pay the ultimate price. It's never the soldier's fault, seldom the equipment; it can usually be traced to incompetent and blind leadership.

In Somalia, the conventional-thinking U.S. Army brass was guilty of violating basic war fighting principles: underestimating their unconventional enemy, poor contingency planning and not having a workable command-and-control with other U.N. forces and U.S. Special Operations Command.

On top of these glaring defects, Major General Thomas M. Montgomery, the U.S. Army component commander located in Mogadishu and deputy U.N. commander, should have raised all kinds of hell when Defense Secretary Les Aspin arbitrarily refused his request to send more combat troops and armored vehicles for just such relief missions. His sacred job is to protect his precious troops. The requirement for armored vehicles had not just come up — it had been growing for months. During the planning stages of the raid, Montgomery can also be faulted for not immediately assembling a scratch armored force from other U.N. units in Mogadishu that had such assets available and holding this force on a tight string in case his "perfect plan" became imperfect.

Montgomery had veto power over the Ranger raid. Without U.S. armor to roll to the rescue, he should have killed the plan because the risks outweighed the gains. Another mistake, one that even a green corporal shouldn't make, was not having heavy firepower available if things got really nasty; an AC-130 Spectre gunship flying overhead could have laid down a wall of pinpoint accurate fire the minute the Rangers got into trouble. Had armored vehicles or a Spectre been available, there would not have been a near Custer's Last Stand. Spectre's 105mm cannon and 6,000 round per minute mini-guns would have put a ring of steel

around the surrounded force, which would have blown away Aidid's fighters and greatly reduced the American casualties until the armored vehicles punched a corridor through.

The U.S. military community around the world is outraged by this disaster which comes right on the heels of Desert Storm, a swift surgical thrashing. I recently spoke to dozens of Somali veterans who voiced their anger at this botched mission. A Ranger colonel told me, "We fought to win in the desert. This erased our sins from Vietnam, and now we send people on another 'Mission Impossible' and make all the mistakes of Vietnam all over again."

Aspin's interference in military operations further outrages them. A paratrooper lieutenant colonel said, "Who is he to deny a commander in the field a company of armor? This airhead blows \$5 billion on an unnecessary Seawolf submarine and can't spend a few dollars to fly in protection for our grunts. He spent twice what it would have cost on his holiday to Italy. He should be shot."

A savvy combat-experienced major angrily shouted, "When it is assumed there's a risk because of imperfect intelligence information, you always safe-side the operation. It's better to have too much than too little when lives are at stake. Mistakes to us become little white crosses." A three-war retired Marine

colonel added, "The fact that our military in Somalia is not a protected force and is assigned a mission that is not doable is White House and Pentagon malfeasance. Clinton and Aspin must be held accountable."

Aspin's comment that Chief Warrant Officer Michael Durant was a "detainee," not a POW, touched raw nerves. "A prisoner is a prisoner," shouted a highly decorated former Gulf War POW. "Trying to whitewash the situation with a name change ain't gonna make it."

Two of the biggest mistakes of Vietnam were that we were fighting a war in which America's national security was not threatened and we had no military objective. Both are also the case in Somalia. According to a Marine Corps captain, "Is the mission humanitarian? Getting a guerrilla leader? Or filling body bags with young American warriors' bodies? When are our political and military leaders going to learn?"

It is the absolute consensus of everyone I talked to that we have been on a Mission Impossible, sans Peter Graves, in Somalia. A Somalia veteran told me, "The writing was clearly on the wall last May that the operation had turned to shit. We were ill-equipped boys sent to do men's work even back then. Our mission crept from feeding to fighting. We must learn from this mistake. These young men must not have died in vain."

A field grade officer with two wars' experience who spent months in Somalia said, "It would take over a division just to cordon off Aidid's army in south

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## "Mistakes To Us Become Little White Crosses."



## THOSE RESPONSIBLE

• **Bill Clinton, Commander in Chief, for:**

1) Committing U.S. troops in a combat role when America's national security was not involved.

2) Allowing "Mission Creep" to occur.

3) Not pulling our forces out of Somalia when the humanitarian job was done.

• **Les Aspin, Defense Secretary, for:**

1) Arbitrarily refusing a 26 August request for an additional infantry battalion task force and a 9 September '93 request from Mogadishu for armor: Abrams tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles. Had U.S. armor been available, the linkup would have been accomplished within minutes.

• **Thomas Montgomery, Army Commander, for:**

1) Allowing an unworkable command structure to exist between the U.S., U.N. and U.S. Special Operations, which is a repeat of Vietnam.

2) Not having a decent contingency plan that incorporated U.N. armor and U.S. air ready to reinforce the Rangers the minute they got into trouble.

3) Grossly underestimating his guerrilla opponent.

4) Allowing the raid to occur in daylight, which placed the Rangers at unacceptable risk.



Small sample of weapons captured after Marines stormed one of Aidid's compounds in early January 1993. Firearms of every conceivable type still proliferate Mogadishu. Photo: Reuters/Bettman



Army Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Clements holds Chinese-made 82mm mortar round while standing in magazine containing an estimated 30 tons of various captured ammunition. Photo: Reuters/Bettmann

ited supply of ammo and plenty of heavy weapons. As each minute ticked by, the guerrillas grew stronger as the defenders, with their ammunition dwindling and casualties growing, grew weaker. The initial Ranger raiding party didn't come for a long fight. It was to be a quick, in-and-out job. They went in with light packs, infantry weapons — M16s and M60s — and only a basic load of ammunition. Only skill, solid unit cohesion, great discipline and courage — which Rangers and Delta warriors are famous for — prevented their being overrun.

The surrounded fighters rationed every shot, while patching up their wounded as they fought. Although hit,

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# BODYGUARDS INVADE SPETSNAZ BASE



**Brrrupppp! Brrrupppp!** Automatic weapons fire rattled through the pine forest and the smell of smokeless powder tainted the sweet, fresh morning air. If you had told me five years ago that on this day I would be standing on the firing range of a Spetsnaz (Soviet special forces ... you know, the guys Stallone had falling like flies in *Rambo: First Blood Part II*) base in the heart of Latvia, I would have laughed.

The only way I thought I'd ever see a place like this would be while waiting for a bullet as I hung from a parachute and peered past the toes of my jump boots at little green footballs coming up at me. Either that or while being led from an interrogation cell for use as an unwilling pop-up target by a bunch of guys named Boris.

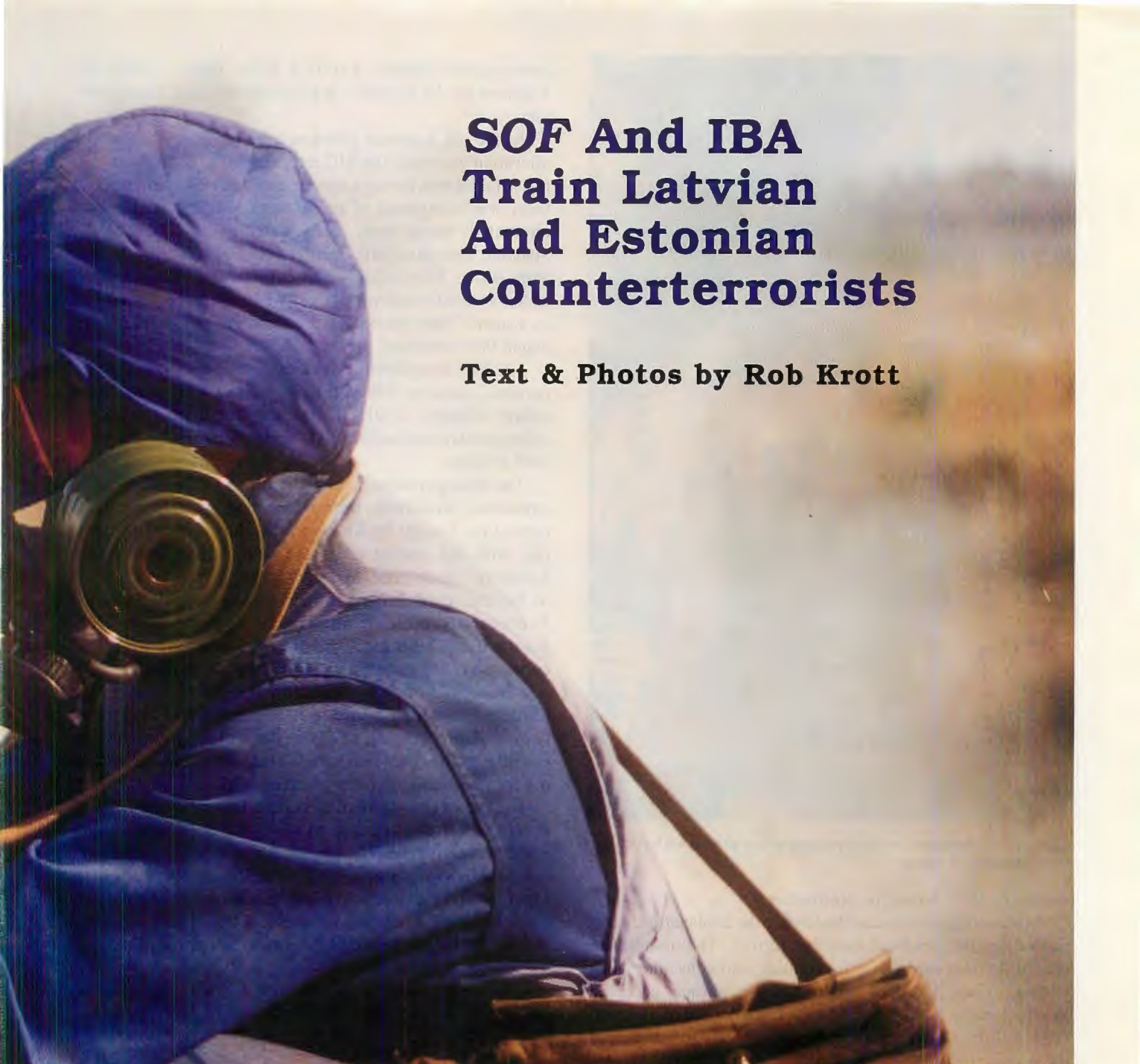
But this was neither. Matter of fact, I was standing there happy as could be with a Soviet Stechkin machine pistol, watching blue smoke curl from the barrel. 'Course I was

surrounded by Latvians who, if they don't *hate* Russians, they certainly *dislike* them. Strongly. The Russkies were a few hundred meters down the road. The Latvian press refers to them as "occupation forces."

I was here under the auspices of a good friend, Jim Shortt, director-general of the International Bodyguard Association (IBA), whom I'd last seen at the 1992 *Soldier Of Fortune* Convention. Jim was formerly a paratroop sergeant in the British Territorial army and subsequently spent time with the Afghan mujahideen, being hunted by some of the very Spetsnaz troopers he now calls friends.

Shortt has spent the last few years working in the Baltics, training bodyguard units for the governments of Latvia and Estonia. He trained Estonians in December 1990 in Tallinn, Estonia, and became involved in the defense of the TV station there. He later trained the Latvian government's bodyguard unit, and in January 1993 organized and trained





# **SOF And IBA Train Latvian And Estonian Counterterrorists**

**Text & Photos by Rob Krott**

a special counterterrorist/hostage-rescue unit in Latvia. He's also trained military or police personnel in Poland, Cameroon, Papua New Guinea, the Ukraine and Afghanistan. Anyway, Jim asked me if I wanted to go to the Baltics. He was going to be running some training in Estonia and Latvia — CQB (close quarter battle) drills, weapons firing, demolitions, neat stuff like that. It sounded like fun.

## **Packing And Packing**

Jim told me to pack my own sidearms. There is a great deal of street crime in the Baltics; organized crime activity is a major problem, and Jim was recently involved in a shoot-out (an attempted hit) with Russian mobsters in a Riga nightclub. Besides, the Estonians and Latvians OK'ed it, and it's always enjoyable to carry a weapon on the streets of a foreign city with the local boys' permission. I took a Colt Officer's .45 and a Bersa Model 83 .380.

**Member of Latvian hostage-rescue/counterterrorist unit SIG (Special Intervention Group) trains with tear gas and AKSU-74 submachine gun.**

Arriving at the "Hotel Olympia" I ate caviar for breakfast, changed into jeans, exchanged some bucks and went downtown to the market with three European bodyguards of the IBA. They and 26 other professional bodyguards were here for a combination training course and vacation.

The training course was what the IBA calls a "specific specialist/special facilities course." These courses are organized internationally throughout the year, to improve skills relating to improvised explosive devices, countersniping, CQB, firearms, electronic countersurveillance and protective driving. Special-facilities courses are organized in cooperation with the local government and law enforcement authorities in areas such as Russia, the Crimea and the Baltic states, because the cost of similar facilities and train-





Latvian SIG troopers make dynamic entry armed with AKSU-74 submachine guns.

ing in the West would be prohibitive.

All training is conducted following the explanation, demonstration and practical exercise format. The association retains its own equipment for training and constantly adds to their stores. The IBA qualification is unique, accepted internationally and supported by a track record of successfully training government and private bodyguards across the globe since 1957. As Shortt notes in the IBA's brochure, "The IBA has no rivals as no one can match its standards or record."

### Old Enemies: New Mentors

The next day we took a three-hour bus drive to Latvia. At an old Soviet army base near Riga, now Latvia's Academy of National Defense, I met Major Aleksis Konosonoks, a former Soviet Spetsnaz trooper. Alex became an instructor with the 4th Spetsnaz Brigade and later went on to an MVD (Ministry of Internal Affairs) special unit. He is the deputy chief of Latvia's *Valdibas Apsardzes Parvalde* (Government Security Service — VAD) and is the officer in charge of the presidential and VIP bodyguard unit. Alex is one of the few ethnic Russians with a Latvian passport. It's strange to work with a man you like and admire, realizing that you were once sworn enemies.

The VAD is similar to our Secret Service. It consists of the Escort (bodyguard) unit, Drivers section, a Criminal Investigation section and the counterterrorist SIG (Special

Intervention Group), Latvia's Delta Force. Under the Ministry of the Interior, it performs the full Secret Service role.

At the old Spetsnaz polygon (training base) I spent the afternoon watching the SIG execute drills, including a terrorist takedown/hostage-rescue exercise. The antiterrorist team was composed of professional, athletic and highly motivated young men, many veterans of KGB, MVD, Spetsnaz and parachute units. I was impressed with their entry drills: They quickly and expertly attacked urban facades, entered windows tactically and effectively deployed as a team. They reacted well to tear gas, successfully engaged the "terrorists" and rescued the "hostages."

The SIG troops carry Makarov pistols on a lanyard as a personal sidearm and AKSU-74 submachine guns. Body armor, helmets, distinctive blue coveralls and white T-shirts emblazoned with VAD insignia comprise the standard uniform.

The hostage rescue demonstration was followed by solid explosives/demolitions instruction using Spetsnaz and KGB demo kits. Taught by Konosonoks, the class dealt primarily with the use of plastique, especially Semtex, the formerly Czech-produced plastic explosive which grew to be the munition of choice among terrorist groups. Everyone liked the demonstration — detonation of car bombs using both plain plastic explosive and gasoline-enhanced charges. Filling a simulated gas tank with gasoline in an old shot-up sedan on the demolitions range produced a dramatic effect. A small amount of Semtex caused a bright ball of flame to roll up into the air, engulfing the car in flames. Just one of the things modern bodyguards must contend with.

During weapons orientation, familiarization and firing, everyone got their chance to shoot the RPK squad automatic weapon, AKS-74, AK-74, AKM (firing special subsonic 7.62x35mm ammo) and SVD Dragunov sniper rifle. Later, I fired the Stechkin machine pistol with the holster-stock attached — on full automatic. I fell in love ...

The PB-69 suppressed Makarov is also a nice little toy.



Latvian SIG trooper with a weapon for all seasons: folding-stock, suppressed Kalashnikov fitted with grenade launcher. He still wears his Soviet-issue striped paratrooper T-shirt.





Jim Shortt of IBA teaches class on PB-69 suppressed Makarov pistol, comparing it to Stechkin machine pistol (left).

The low-light reticle aiming system consisted of two tritium dots which lined up vertically, as opposed to the three-dot sighting system on Western pistols. Available on the European black market for about \$1,000 U.S., European bodyguards will undoubtedly face this little terror.

I also familiarized myself with the PAM 5.45mm pistol, very rare in the West, the latest model BG-15 30mm grenade launcher (the GP-25 "Koster"), and the KS-23 Russian law enforcement shotgun chambered for a 23mm round. This robust shotgun fires a wide array of cartridges including CS gas rounds. The bodyguard class was introduced to all of these weapons as well as the RPG-7V rocket launcher, a common terrorist and assassination weapon. All weapons were fired except the RPG.

### Defenders Of A Free Estonia

After a diplomatic reception that evening, the next morning we left for the former Soviet Spetsnaz base at Viljandi in south-central Estonia. It is now a *Kaitseliit* training area. *Kaitseliit* translates basically as the National Guard of Estonia, which makes up the bulk of the ground defense forces. There are 18 battalions in Estonia — all volunteers with a preponderance of grandfathers.

I was privileged to work and train with a handful of *Kaitseliit* troopers. Some of these guys are still armed with 1891/30 Mosin-Nagant bolt-actions. Many fought in German units against the Reds, and they and their sons fought on through the 1950s in bands of anticommunist partisans known as the "Forest Brothers." Some of these Baltic partisans supposedly continued an armed resistance against their Soviet oppressors well into the 1970s. Estonia was a free country for only 22 years before the Soviets invaded it in June of 1940.

Older men, because they remember the bad times under Stalin and are determined to keep their freedom this time, make up the bulk of the *Kaitseliit*. At their Viljandi base we trained primarily on shotguns and bolt-action rifles. Three separate firing ranges were set up utilizing old Soviet silhouettes as targets.

A shoot and move course using the IBA's Remington 12-gauge pump shotguns was well-received by *Kaitseliit* officers, and the IBA bodyguards had a good time firing the old Mosin-Nagants. Jim later conducted an orientation on the RPG-22, what the Brits call a "Sixty-six," a rough copy of the U.S. LAW.

Our only casualty came after our training cycle had concluded. "Slava," an Estonian policeman assigned to the anti-racketeering section (and actually a Russian from

Odessa), had wanted to look at my Bersa .380 earlier one morning. He was working the action in the lobby of the Olympia, Tallinn's poshest tourist hotel. Arved Liivrand, the director of Estonia Security Service, walked over and gave him hell for messing with a pistol in the front lobby.

We had been asked to carry "inside" (concealed), as a few of the boys had been running PT across from another hotel with their holsters in plain view. Some grandma called the cops and reported a gang of 30 foreign terrorists running through the streets of Tallinn. Given the appearances and personalities of one or two of the boys, it was a fairly accurate description.

Later that day I was in a bar drinking a cola with four of the guys. Slava again wanted to inspect my Bersa. The guy just wouldn't leave me alone so I pulled out the .380, dropped the magazine and cleared the weapon before I passed it to him. As it worked its way around the table I explained the principles behind the Glaser safety slugs. This wasn't good enough for Slava, who pulled out his Makarov for comparison.

### Uh, Oh!

On examining the Glasers he decided they were a match for his 9x18mm Pistolet Makarov and of course would fit. "Da, Yes, this is good, same size." I begged to differ, but something turned my attention away from Slava and back



Albanian IBA bodyguard, then working in Scandinavia, fires Stechkin machine pistol during training with Latvian Special Forces.

to my other comrades. That's when it happened. *Bang!* ... and the air smelled of gunpowder. We all just looked at each other realizing that Slava had just discharged his Makarov under the table. I was sitting to his left and felt something smack against my right ankle. Slava, looking down between his legs with his hands spread palm to palm, said "Nyet problem, nyet problem." So I thought, "Hell, he's not hit."

The others looked stunned but OK. Everybody was surprisingly calm, there was no jumping around or screaming. Nobody was writhing on the floor gutshot, but we all expected somebody to suddenly discover a bullet wound. Then I saw blood beginning to spot the floor. There was blood splattered on my jacket. I looked at my right foot. Three inches away was a chip missing from the table leg and there were splinters on my pants leg. Aw, shit.

Meanwhile, Slava was still saying "Nyet problem," so I gingerly inspected my leg. I wasn't hit, but bending under the table I could see the blood dripping from Slava's hand. I yelled at Steve, the Brit squaddie, to organize a vehicle as



# BODYGUARDING'S TOP GUNS

The majority of bodyguards employed today have never been formally trained. Even in the "blue chip" security companies, team training is not emphasized. Most personal security companies use the same informal register of freelancers, and often surrender the need for pre-contract training to higher profit margins. In other words, if you request a four-man escort that's what you get ... four men: not necessarily four professionals of equal ability trained to work together.

Techniques may be different, as well as attitudes and work habits. According to Jim Shortt, director-general of the International Bodyguard Association (IBA), "Individuals with backgrounds in the military, police, conventional and club security, and even the martial arts and firearms competition world enter bodyguarding with the same self-assurance and panache as an overconfident first-aider attempting brain surgery. Invariably this is because they overestimate their own capabilities and underestimate the requirements of the job."

The IBA is a professional organization open to personnel who are engaged in bodyguarding duties. The bodyguard roles range from royal, presidential and diplomatic protection to military and corporate executive personal security, as well as judicial protection programs and celebrity protection.

Because the IBA adheres to a set training regimen with all of its members learning the same techniques and drills (as well as requiring English language proficiency for a common work language), a group of IBA bodyguards from different countries can come together and work as a team.

IBA Associate membership is available to anyone who has completed an officially approved bodyguard course under military, police or government supervision. Associate memberships may also be offered after a review of a person's resume. Honorary memberships are granted to persons whose endeavors have advanced the work of the association and the profession of bodyguarding. Full membership is open only to those who enroll in the IBA training program under the supervision of the director of training. The IBA teaches techniques based on Lucien Ott's bodyguard method.

Major Lucien Victor Ott, a highly decorated French Para-Commando officer and noted counterterrorist specialist, founded the IBA in 1957. Ott began his career in 1947 when he volunteered for the French SAS and duty in Indochina. He volunteered to jump into beleaguered Dien Bien Phu, where he was badly wounded by mortar fire and subsequently captured. Surviving a six-month death march, he escaped. In 1956 Ott was involved in the Suez crisis and was tasked with reviewing operational protection methods for French VIPs and revamping the bodyguards of commands in colonial outposts.

He looked at bodyguarding as it was then practiced and felt it too unrealistic, being left to a sort of ad hoc wing-and-a-prayer approach. Ott thought the best method was to institute SOPs (standard operating procedures) and contingency drills, rather than surrounding the VIP with big guys ... guys who shoot second. In those days they said, "The bodyguard is the man who shot the man who shot the president."

What Ott encountered led him to form the IBA as a "bodyguard think-tank" and fraternal organization. Ott was in Algeria when, following a bloody assassination attempt on Charles De Gaulle by the OAS (renegade French Foreign Legion officers), he was selected to form De Gaulle's personal bodyguard. De Gaulle was reported to have said, "Damn it! Get me men like the ones who are trying to kill me!" At Ott's direction a special protection cadre of former French special forces combat veterans was created. Less than gracious with the press, they became known as *Les Gorilles*, — the Gorillas.

Ott's Gorillas kept De Gaulle alive through many assassination attempts and were involved in foreign VIP protection as well. Ott left the army and moved to Germany for a "genteel semi-retirement." In the mid-1970s he moved to Brussels and set up his bodyguard academy.

Today the association organizes its own training courses throughout the world through national officers, appointed and reappointed annually by an international coordinator. These officers are tasked with organizing the closed courses that the IBA provides for government agencies and private corporate groups. IBA mobile training teams have a successful track record, especially in high-risk areas. The IBA was responsible for the training of Estonian, Latvian, and Lithuanian presidential and government bodyguards during the Baltic crisis (1989-1991), and continues to work

in the region. The IBA was the first to be invited to train KGB bodyguards in the former USSR, and in 1992 the IBA sent a mobile training team to Afghanistan at the urgent request of the new Islamic government formed by the mujahideen.

Instructor training can be undertaken by individuals who have completed a minimum of 200 hours training and have practical bodyguarding experience. The IBA instructor is an instructor-practitioner who has qualified as a bodyguard and then completed a diploma course, first to "monitor" level (assistant instructor), later at basic instructor level, and finally at international instructor level. The IBA also administers a pre-instructor coaching scheme and offers practical experience in the training environment.

An IBA member will train first at the basic level and then receive advanced training through regular re-



Author (left) poses with B.W. Hommersen (director, Multi-Training, Alkmaar, Holland), Mark Yates (Trans Global Securities, UK), and Rune Dokken (Personal Protection Service, Norway) in "work" clothes.

*Continued on page 74*



Girls and guns... who said you can't have fun in the East Bloc? Latvian police woman sports suppressed AK.

I stepped to the bar and pulled a cloth napkin from under a tray of silverware. The barmaids were long gone. (Later Steve remarked how fast they'd moved ... a common survival skill in a city with a large organized crime element, where the KGB used to haul all participants and witnesses of shootings away for "questioning.") I spun the napkin into a cravat and bound Slava's hand.

He'd worked the top of the slide in an overhand manner (rather than gripping the back with thumb and forefinger) with his left hand, while his right forefinger undoubtedly rested on the trigger. The negligent discharge (henceforth known as "doing a Slava") sent the slug through the meaty portion of the outside of his left palm just back from the little finger. There was a nice black-and-blue hole there. I bound Slava's hand and turned to secure my own pistol. "Where's my piece?" It wasn't anywhere in sight.

Then I saw *who* was missing. Leave it to an Irishman to remove a gun and himself from the scene of a possible shooting. Dave, the experienced Irish cop, had already secured it and left the hotel. Slava started mopping his blood off the floor with his handkerchief. The whole time he was saying, "Nyet problem, Nyet problem."

Fortunately Slava's wound was only superficial and I didn't get drilled, so we all (minus Slava) had some laughs about it later over pizza and beer at the Palace Hotel. The story got told in its entirety when two more bodyguards walked in. I'd forgotten I'd almost pulled off my jacket to use as a bandage until I saw it was just a simple GSW through-and-through. Dave mentioned it though, "That's one of those expensive polo jackets, isn't it then? You wouldn't want to be doing that." Later, Slava got some razzing, but took it all good-naturedly and didn't get upset about it. Accidental/negligent discharges do happen and as one of the guys said later, "Slava shot himself in the hand, but it could've been worse ... it could've been me."

The Estonian Secret Service has taken over the old KGB barracks and offices in Tallinn. And they provided an orientation on their armored limousines for the benefit of IBA bodyguards. That evening there was another diplomatic

function. At this one, diplomas for the IBA course were handed out by Priit Kelder, senior adviser to the Estonian National Police Board and Konosonoks.

### Limos, Spetsnaz, And The Mob

The bodyguards then adjourned to the Hotel Olympia's discotheque for a practical exercise. We had no idea how practical it was soon to get. This was the same four-star nightclub that made news in *The Baltic Independent* because a few months earlier eight of Jim's boys checked their pistols at the door. It was also a well-known organized crime hangout. As usual the place was full of foreign businessmen, diplomats, well-heeled Estonians, high class prostitutes, and, of course, Russian Mafia. The Russian mob really didn't like the idea of a bunch of smooth-talking westerners in

black tie partying in their club and walking away with the best-looking women.

I was introduced to one large former Spetsnaz trooper, who kept buying me screwdrivers which he wanted me



Toys for big boys: from left is scoped Dragunov sniper rifle, standard Makarov pistols, suppressed PB-69 Makarov, two folding-stock AKs, one of which has a suppressor, late model RPK-74 light machine gun, AKSU-74 submachine gun.

to competitively guzzle with him. No problem, because after six years of college this is my only skill. Watching from the corner of my eye I saw him switching his drink with an empty glass. Hmmm, an old trick. I played along for three drinks and then grabbed his hand and called him on it, "That's number four, Afghanistan."

I started to move away and he grabbed my arm and tried to drag me over to the Mafia side of the bar. Jostling in the crowd, I broke loose, but he tried to corner me near the door. I put my back to the wall just in case his friends tried something. Two other IBA men quickly flanked me. Mark Yates rescued me by bumping my friend out the door, cold-cocking him while the doormen inspected their own shoes, then throwing the troublemaker in the gutter. *That's what bodyguards are for.*

*A former SF trooper, Rob Krott is an SOF Senior Foreign Correspondent. ✕*



**No matter** what your skill level, participation in any Gunsite Training Center course is an eminently rewarding experience. It's physically and mentally exhausting as well, but as weight lifters say, "No pain, no gain." For some, it becomes the highlight of a lifetime, for others it evolves into an almost annual journey. All of those who graduate from Gunsite — founded by Jeff Cooper in 1977 — become "family members," a fraternity with no small elitist overtones.

Gunsite is located 26 miles north of Prescott, Arizona, on 933 acres of juniper-pinyon woodland in the Upper Sonoran Life Zone. Originally known as the American Pistol Institute (API), Gunsite, under Jeff Cooper's guidance, pioneered the legitimate combat applications of the handgun through now-standard drills for the evaluation of practical marksmanship. "Practical" marksmanship is not gamesmanship and Gunsite graduates are trained to solve crises, not to ring IPSC gongs.

Gunsite's physical plant is impressive. There are nine pistol ranges, six rifle ranges and six shotgun ranges. A 180-degree swing is available on the pistol ranges with 360 degrees in the indoor reaction ranges. Firing distances can be varied from arm's length to 1,000 yards on one of seven outdoor simulators.

The three indoor simulators, called the "Funhouse," "Playhouse" and "Firebox," offer unlimited tactical variety in all conditions of light, from broad daylight to the lower limit of visibility. Double-track, power-driven carriers and the gravity-fed "Aptir" provide both simple and complex moving target problems. There are nine innovative target systems found only at Gunsite Ranch. Outdoor simulators include the "Vlei," "Scrambler," "Donga," "West Wash" and "North Draw."

I first became a family member in 1981 when I attended API No. 250, the General Pistol course. Jeff Cooper sold Gunsite on 29 May 1992, and the fabled training facility is now under the directorship of Richard Jee, a long-time Gunsite instructor. After a 12-year absence, I decided to return to Gunsite in August of 1993 for Gunsite No. 270, the General Rifle course: partially to see what changes had occurred at Gunsite during my hiatus, but mostly because armed professionals,

# GUNSITE GAUNTLET

## High Chaparral "Combat" Course For Critical Encounters

**Text & Photos by Peter G. Kokalis**

like golf and tennis pros, must continue to receive training from other professionals whenever possible if they are to remain within the constantly changing mainstream of small arms employment techniques.

One of the facility's most well-known and popular courses, Gunsite

No. 270 provides a thorough exposure to practical rifle marksmanship for hunters, law-enforcement and military personnel, and civilians who wish to learn potentially life-saving skills. It is limited to centerfire rifles of full caliber (6mm and above), as they must be effective to the far end of medium



Gabe Suarez, who serves with a major California law enforcement agency, fires his Remington Model Seven .308 Winchester caliber rifle from the sitting position. This short-action design, introduced in 1983, has an 18.5-inch barrel and a walnut stock with a modified schnabel fore-end.



Gunsite No. 270 General Rifle Course students practice the sitting position while closely observed by instructors. First three firearms in the foreground are all Gunsite Scout Rifles chambered for the .308 Winchester cartridge.

range (400 yards). All of the students in my class were equipped with either 7.62x51mm NATO (.308 Winchester) or .30-06 caliber rifles.

Rangemaster for our course was my friend John Gannaway whom I have known for more than 20 years. John has superb qualifications to teach rifle

marksmanship. He has hunted western North America, as well as five African countries with over 90 big-game trophies to his credit. Jeff Cooper calls him "the Lion Man." A commercial reloader since 1978, John has been the winner of over 300 shooting awards with all types of firearms. In

addition, he has been a gunsmith, expert witness in the field of reloading, and has taught countersniping and submachine-gun employment to Arizona law enforcement agencies for more than seven years. John has been an adjunct instructor at Gunsite since 1982 and is qualified as rangemaster for rifle, and as instructor for pistol, shotgun and carbine (Jeff Cooper's euphemism for assault rifles, such as the M16 and Kalashnikov series).

Only one student in my class, a U.S. Army Special Forces captain from Fort Campbell, Kentucky had a semiautomatic rifle equipped with iron sights alone — an FN FAL. Everyone else had a scoped, bolt-action rifle of some type or another. Five, including myself, had Gunsite Scout Rifles chambered for the .308 Winchester cartridge with Burris long-eye-relief 2.75X fixed-power Scout Scopes. There were a number of Remington 700 series rifles, including a short-barreled countersniping weapon assembled by AWC Systems Technology with a McMillan stock and Leupold police scope, and two Winchester Model 70s.

A six-day course like this — 500 rounds are the required minimum — strains equipment to an absolute maximum. There were equipment failures, to be sure, but the Gunsite gunsmithy corrected these in short order without jeopardizing any student's participation in the course.

In addition to the normal hearing and eye protection, recommended ancillary equipment includes a hat, as the sun can be fierce at the rifle quad in the summer, and both elbow and knee pads, preferably of the type used by sidewalk surfers. An ammo pouch on the belt is also useful. Most of us used one designed by Eagle Industries that was stocked in Gunsite's pro shop.

### Paper Casualties

The morning of the first day was spent zeroing rifles, starting at 25 yards, moving to 100 yards and then finally establishing a 200-yard zero (which was then reconfirmed each morning throughout the remaining five days of the course). At this juncture, all firing was on paper targets from the prone position with the rifle stabilized by a sandbag.

Gunsite's proprietary paper target is excellent for both handgun and rifle





**SOF's Technical Editor, Peter Kokalis, aka "Rice Paddy Daddy,"** fires a center-of-mass hit on a 75-yard Pepper Popper with "Baby IV," more-or-less a duplicate of Jeff Cooper's "Baby" — built from a highly modified Czech Brno ZKK 602 and chambered for the massive .460 G&A cartridge. Photo: Gabe Suarez

applications. Both green and yellowish-tan camouflage background patterns are available. The torso portion of the target measures approximately 18 inches wide by 24 inches long. The X-ring, with a diameter of about 9.5 inches carries a value of 5 points. The Y-ring has a diameter of about 13.5 inches with a 4-point scoring value. A hit in any other portion of the body does not score any points in the rifle course, although it's worth 2 points in the pistol courses. The head above the torso, a 6- by 6-inch square, has a 2.5- by 4-inch center rectangle.

### Rice Paddy Prone

During the afternoon of the first day, all of the firing positions were demonstrated and then practiced: military and Olympic prone; sitting — open-legs, crossed-legs and crossed-ankles; kneeling; Marine Corps squatting or what some now refer to as "rice paddy prone"; and standing — both standard offhand and body-supported Olympic.

On the morning of the second day, after reconfirming our 200-yard zero, we began what at Gunsite are called "snaps." Close-range snap shooting is an important aspect of the No. 270 rifle course, and it has applications for both hunters and those who intend to survive close encounters of the dangerous kind.

Shooters start in the outdoor ready position with the rifle's butt just above the waist and the muzzle up — covering the target. The mindset required is "eyes, muzzle, target." Initially, students fire body shots from 25 yards with no time limit. They then move

back to 50 yards for the same exercise. Moving forward again to 25 yards, a maximum time limit of 4 seconds is imposed. After firing a shot, the shooters "cover down" — taking the finger off the trigger, lowering the muzzle and searching to the right and left flanks with both eyes and muzzle for other potential targets.

Before the morning ended, we practiced controlled-fire at 100 yards from the prone, sitting, kneeling and squatting positions. Throughout the entire course, the essential balance between speed and accuracy was continually emphasized by the instructors.

In the afternoon, during the continuing snap drills we were introduced to head shots from 25 yards with a 4-second time limit. Then it was back to 50 yards for body shots within 4 seconds.



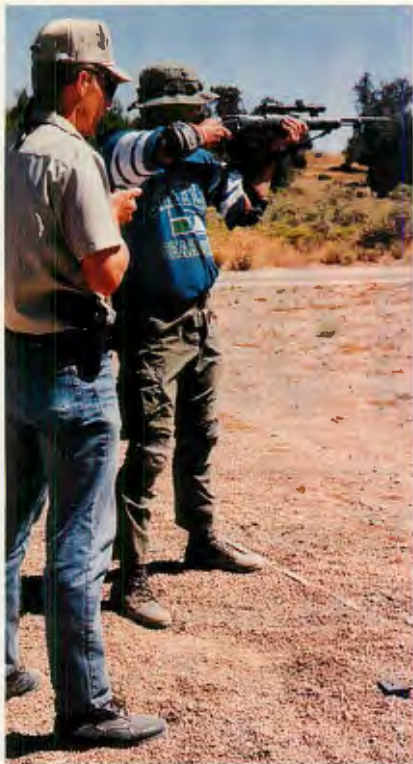
**U.S. Army Special Forces Captain Sam Pikula** fires his FN FAL at a target in the Vlei. Targets can be difficult to distinguish in the juniper-pinyon woodland that prevails on Gunsite's 933 acres.

At this time I learned that I had a pronounced tendency to "chicken wing" with the support arm during rapid fire sequences. The support arm must be held directly under the rifle during an offhand shoulder mount to minimize lateral movement of the rifle when acquiring the target through the scope. Here we have a classic example of why continued formal instruction is necessary for all armed professionals. No matter how proficient you think you have become through frequent practice on your own, only an observing instructor can spot idiosyncrasies that must be corrected to improve a shooter's performance level.

The day finished with prone shooting at paper targets from 200 yards and with 300-yard prone shooting directed at self-resetting rifle Pepper Poppers (named for their original designer, John Pepper). These reactive steel targets come in several sizes, but the ones we fired on were 42 inches high and only 12 inches wide. They are manufactured and available for purchase at Gunsite, and include a new Popper Lite that weighs about 24 pounds less than a standard Pepper Popper and comes on a skeletonized frame. With a built-in bumper, it disassembles in seconds for travel or storage.

Early the next morning at sunup, I found a number of the other students at the rifle quad who, like myself, had arrived before the allotted time to practice snaps. It was just as well, as that morning we fired head shots at 25 yards and body shots at 50 yards within the 1.5-second time limit re-





Bill Jeans, Gunsite's operations manager and a participant in the No. 270 General Rifle course, fires the first stage of the "Rifle Bounce" exercise — a Pepper Popper at 100 yards from the offhand position — with Gunsite Scout Rifle No. 10, the only one made using a Winchester Model 70 action.

quired for No. 270 graduates.

Thereafter, we again reconfirmed our 200-yard zero from the prone position and moved forward to 100 yards to fire both from the Olympic standing position and offhand snaps with no time limit.

### Jumbo Elephant Bullets

Following lunch we heard a fascinating lecture from Gannaway on the external and terminal ballistics of rifle cartridges from caliber .243 Winchester to the .600 Nitro Express — the largest and most powerful English elephant cartridge. John stressed what most experienced hunters know and what most of the hobbyists who write for the popular gun press obviously do not know: Deep penetration is the key factor in the equation of a successful hunting bullet, and beyond that, the bullet that makes the biggest hole will do the most damage.

The afternoon started with 1.5-second snaps at 25 to 50 yards. Moving to the 100-yard line and using a steel fence post, we fired from right- and left-hand standing and kneeling braced positions. Back then for more snaps

in five-shot sequences. This was followed by shooting at clay pigeons — a frustrating and unsuccessful experience for all but one of us. At the 200-yard line we practiced rapid assumption of the prone position firing two-shot sequences. The day ended with all of the students firing an assortment of big bore hunting rifles from Gannaway's personal collection that included boomers chambered for the .350 Remington, .375 H&H Magnum, .416 Remington Magnum, .458 Winchester Magnum, .460 G&A and the .577 Nitro Express (chambered in a custom Ruger No. 1 single-shot rifle built by J.D. Jones of SSK Industries).

The physical, emotional and com-



Firing from the Olympic prone position, a Gunsite No. 270 student engages a 300-yard target during the "Rifle Eight" exercise.

petitive pressure forced on No. 270 students is unceasing and constantly increasing as everyone is driven throughout the week to the cutting edge of his maximum potential.

The fourth day began with 300-, 200- and 100-yard prone shooting. Subsequently, while each student was walked through the Vlei, the others practiced 1.5-second snaps from 25 and 50 yards.

### Desert Play

The Vlei is one of Gunsite's most famous outdoor reactive simulators. It simulates both hunting and military patrolling environments. Targets will be encountered at ranges from 25 to 300 yards. The student is expected to

locate and engage the target as quickly as possible from the firing position most appropriate for the distance to the target and the cover available to the shooter. A center hit will cause a circular, spring-loaded steel gong to momentarily swing backward. The targets, especially those at 200 yards and beyond, are difficult to locate in the rolling hills — covered with scrub oak and juniper — on each side of the arroyo you must walk through. This is a challenging exercise that tests both marksmanship and alertness. My only criticism was that, because of the time constraints imposed upon us, I was forced to walk through the Vlei at a faster pace than would be prudent in a battlefield environment.

The day ended with an exercise called the "Rifle Bounce," which involved firing at Pepper Poppers from three distances. On command, the shooter engages a target 100 yards from the firing line from either the standing or squatting position. He then assumes either the squatting or sitting position to engage a Pepper Popper at 200 yards. Leaping over a barricade, he falls into the prone position to fire at a 300-yard target. This is a timed exercise and a maximum of six shots are permitted.

On the fifth and final day of instruction, we began again with 1.5-second snaps at 25 to 50 yards. By now it seemed that I had mounted the rifle from the outdoor ready position at least several thousand times. It may have actually been less, but my brain told me it had become a drill without beginning or end.

Next we confirmed our 200-yard zero, shot at that range from the standing position and then moved back to 400 yards where I surprised myself at the consistency with which I struck the 12-inch-wide Pepper Popper, while shooting the Gunsite Scout Rifle with its long-eye-relief, low-power 2.75X scope from the prone position.

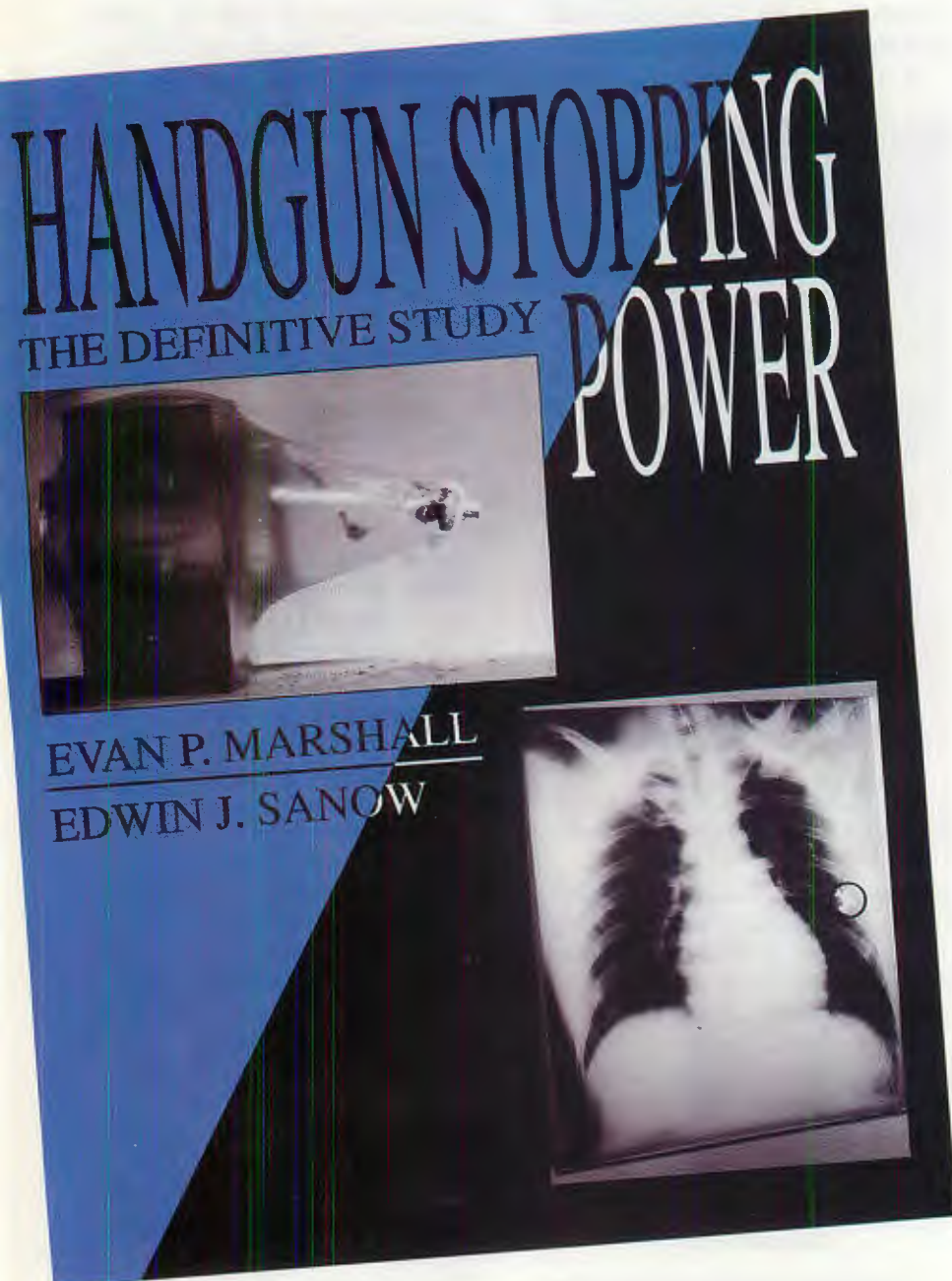
Everyone was worked through the Vlei again, and this time I needed a second shot only once — on a 200-yard target. While some were running the Vlei the rest were, of course, firing snaps at 25 and 50 yards.

The day ended with a timed exercise called "Rifle Eight." This consisted of two shots from the prone at 300 yards, followed by a run to the

*Continued on page 78*



# MARSHALL-SANOW CAN'T BEAT LONG ODDS



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## Wound Wizards' Tally Too Good To Be True

by **Dr. Martin L.  
Fackler M.D.**

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than being the 'definitive study' of handgun stopping power, as the title self-proclaims, this confusing text provides the reader with a schizophrenic mixture of material." Roberts and Wolberg concluded: "This book is a bad joke, a joke which may get law enforcement officers killed."

The furious debate about this book has continued unabated, with Marshall and Sanow's supporters hurling vicious attacks at the doubters. Now it appears that a sophisticated statistical analysis of Marshall and Sanow's database demonstrates it to be highly suspect. As the topic of wound ballistics remains of great interest to SOF's readers, we present here a letter from an acknowledged expert on the subject, Dr. Martin L. Fackler M.D., of the International Wound Ballistics Association (IWBA).

— Peter G. Kokalis  
SOF Technical Editor

We pointed out in *IWBA Bulletin* No. 1/92 that three academic statisticians had judged, independently, the

book *Handgun Stopping Power: The Definitive Study*, authored by Evan Marshall and Edwin Sanow and published by Paladin Press.

Our reviewers stated that, "Rather

*In December 1992's Soldier Of Fortune we published a devastating review by Gary K. Roberts and Eugene J. Wolberg concerning the*

Evan Marshall and Edwin Sanow "one-shot stop" data to be bogus, i.e., made up to fit a preconceived theory. Since that time another renowned academic, Dr. Carroll Peters, professor of engineering at the University of Tennessee Space Institute, has analyzed the Marshall-Sanow statistics and calculated the probability that they could be true to be one

in 10 to the 20th power (or one in 100,000,000,000,000,000). Peters' paper describing his analysis will soon appear in print.

When Marshall's "One-Shot Stop" statistics appeared in the November 1988 *Petersen's Handguns*, I noted that his data appeared to be "too good to be true." In response to inquiries, I analyzed these data and

concluded they must have been fabricated. My analysis took in the following details:

- Marshall claimed to have obtained his data from eyewitness descriptions and police reports. I have queried many knowledgeable law enforcement investigators: They all agreed that my estimate of 70% accuracy for these sources was extremely generous.

- Marshall purportedly recorded shots that struck the torso. My experience, and that of others, has shown an expanding .357 Magnum bullet that passes through the lower abdomen, striking only loops of bowel, has a less detrimental effect on the human body than does a 158-grain .38 Special lead round-nosed bullet that perforates the heart, aorta, or the upper part of the spinal cord. Variation in effect due to differences in what the bullet hits would, in my estimation, limit reproducibility in his study to no greater than 60%.

- Difference in mental focus is known to have a large effect on how people react to being shot. The frightened amateur thief is much more likely to collapse from a random torso hit than would a well-trained and dedicated terrorist. Such variations in human responses to identical wounds would, in my estimation, limit reproducibility to no greater than 70%.

Overall accuracy in any data collection is determined when all individual accuracy percentages produced are multiplied by each factor that limits statistical certainty. Thus, 70% of 60% yields 42%, and this figure multiplied by 70% results in a final accuracy factor of just over 29% (or an almost 71% uncertainty). This means that, given the methods Marshall claims to have used, only 29% of his incidents could be expected to produce consistent results (i.e., more-disruptive bullets showing greater effects than less-disruptive bullets).

The constant mistake made by those who fabricate data is that they make it "too good to be true." The extreme regularity of responses to being shot reported by Marshall is, in my opinion, impossible due to the well-known inherent variations and inconsistencies in human reaction (see chart).

*Dr. Martin L. Fackler M.D. is president of the International Wound Ballistics Association. ❧*

## NUMBERS JUST TOO NEAT

This chart includes data drawn from two tables published in Evan Marshall's November 1988 *Petersen's Handguns* article. He reported the "one-shot stop" percentages for the .38 Special load in two lists, one comprised of results obtained through use of a weapon with a 2-inch barrel; the second list included results obtained from use of a 4-inch-barreled weapon.

### "ONE-SHOT STOP" PERCENTAGES FOR .38 SPECIAL LOADS

.38 Special load 2-inch barrel		.38 Special load 4-inch barrel		Increase
158 grain LHP	61%	W-W 158 grain LHP	65%	+4%
158 grain LHP	61%	Fed 158 grain LHP	64%	+3%
158 grain LHP	61%	Rem 158 grain LHP	64%	+3%
125 grain JHP	60%	Fed 125 grain JHP	63%	+3%
125 grain JHP	58%	Rem 125 grain JHP	61%	+3%
125 grain JHP	57%	CCI 125 grain JHP	60%	+3%
125 grain JHP	56%	W-W 125 grain JHP	60%	+4%
125 grain JSP	65%	Fed 125 grain JSP	58%	+3%
158 grain SWC	50%	Fed 158 grain SWC	55%	+5%
158 grain RNL	50%	Fed 158 grain RNL	55%	+5%
095 grain JHP	50%	Rem 095 grain JHP	55%	+5%
110 grain JHP	50%	W-W 110 grain JHP	55%	+5%

**The total numbers of shooting incidents per load reportedly ranged from 16 to 112, averaging 48.6 incidents for each load type.**

Note the extreme regularity of Marshall's results: One dozen various .38 Special loads are ranked in exactly the same order (of descending effectiveness) for the group of shooting incidents in which 2-inch-barreled guns were employed, as they are in the ranking order of those same loads fired in incidents from 4-inch-barreled weapons.

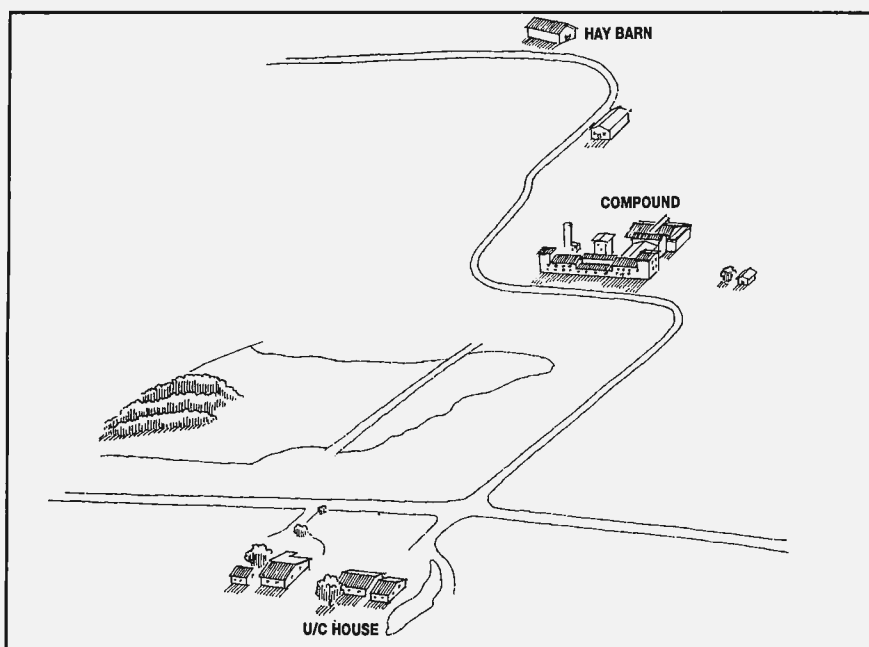
Marshall's results indicate a percentage of "one-shot stops" were always 3%, 4% or 5% higher when a 4-inch barrel was used. But such conformity could only occur in a study where a certainty of 99% to 100% could be expected. This excludes any study involving human reactions [i.e., considering the likelihood of inconsistent data gathered from eyewitness or law enforcement sources providing data, along with the variations in one-shot effects on varied body-strike locations or target physiques, coupled with the unpredictable mental focus or physical response of any given wounded human target].

Dr. Carroll Peters has since analyzed data appearing in the 1992 book *Handgun Stopping Power: The Definitive Study*, authored by Marshall with Edwin Sanow. Statistics cited in this book were purportedly based on considerably more shooting incidents than were covered in Marshall's 1988 paper. However, the same ranking one-stop shot order of .38 Special bullets reported in the 1988 article is repeated in the 1992 book (the same 12 loads in the same order, with shot percentages from 2- and 4-inch barrel lengths).

— M. L. F.



# GOVERNMENT'S WACO WHITTEWASH



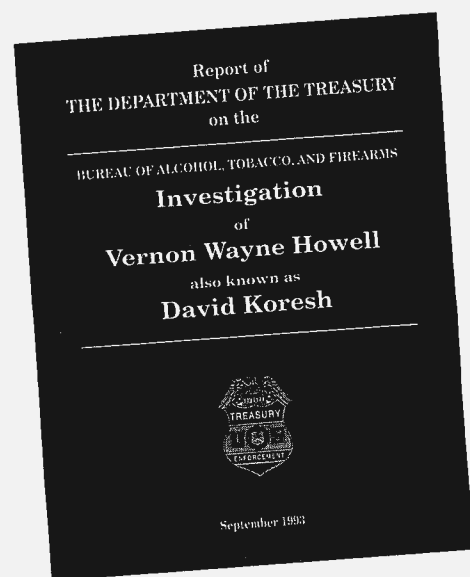
**Stacked in perfect piles** in the marble-columned Cash Room of the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the Clinton administration's first official report on the disastrous Waco raid — its 510 pages as fresh and crisp as newly printed money — is a remarkable document. Echoing through the birthplace of doublespeak, the Treasury Department's report on the Waco debacle rings with amazing candor.

In Disneyland-on-the-Potomac, though, things are seldom what they seem. After announcing the removal of six Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) agents, including Director Stephen Higgins and his three top henchmen, along with two of the three Waco raid commanders,

Treasury report sketch of ATF undercover house positioned just off Double E Ranch Road west of Branch Davidian compound (not drawn to scale). Indicative of Operation Trojan Horse's mismanagement, ATF observers stationed in hay barn moved to safe, superior vantage point, then were ordered back by raid commanders.

Treasury Secretary Lloyd Bentsen endorsed a plan to abolish ATF under a proposed consolidation of federal law-enforcement agencies.

But most, if not all, of the booted ATF goons will land under a golden parachute, retaining their federal retirements and benefits. And only three weeks after Bentsen indicated ATF ought to go, its future appeared certain — under the possibly ominous command of John Magaw,



## TREASURY REPORT ON RAID A DAMAGE- CONTROL MASTERPIECE

TEXT & PHOTOS  
BY JAMES L. PATE

a former head of the Secret Service.

The blue slick-covered report's contents are not as neat as were those piles of copies stacked carefully for the news media. Contrasting with the polished facades of the palatial Treasury chamber, where the report was released with fanfare on 30 September, the Waco fiasco remains a dirty mess.

The report cites "disturbing evidence of flawed decision-making, inadequate intelligence gathering, miscommunication, supervisory failures and deliberately misleading post-raid statements about the raid and the raid plan by certain ATF supervisors." Yet for all its acclaimed candor, the Treasury report on Waco is more notable as a masterfully crafted dam-

age-control document. And everyone bought it — almost.

In a front-page story cast in unusually strong language, *The New York Times* characterized the Treasury study as “a brutally detailed report of mistakes and mendacity in the top ranks” of ATF, and “a devastating critique of an obscure Treasury agency already teetering on the edge of extinction ...”

The report, noted the *Times*, “said officials changed a written record of the plan after the raid in a self-serving way, and then lied about the alterations. It also concluded the officials had tried to pin blame for the failure on an undercover agent who, in fact, had tried to stop the raid.”

### Cowardly Deceit

More telling — yet ignored by the mainstream media — is what the report *doesn't* include: the people who were not interviewed, the ATF agents who were not singled out for criticism. For all its supposed candor and criticism, views expressed in the Treasury report are *only* those of the ATF, the Treasury Department and their own outside experts.

Interviewed only *after* the report was virtually complete, gun dealer Henry McMahon's story is not reflected therein (see “Waco: Behind The Cover-Up,” *SOF* Nov. '93). The Treasury report instead implies McMahon was a member of the Branch Davidian church, an extremist offshoot of Seventh-day Adventism headed by a young rock guitarist and Bible-quoting Lothario named David Koresh. The report paints McMahon as a liar who tried to mislead ATF agents about Koresh's identity and possession of firearms. Yet the government itself holds documentary evidence proving the report wrong on both counts.

The ATF and the FBI have crawled out on a dead limb. The bureaus have no choice, considering the potential losses, but to defend their follies —

lies, deceptions and ineptitude conspicuous throughout the Waco standoff. McMahon's story is well-documented and poses a major threat to an already shaky case.

The feds *must* attack McMahon's credibility if they hope to win in court. Under the tawdry circumstances, a government victory in the Waco case may be more elusive than it was in Idaho against Randy Weaver, where what was then a new low in cowardly federal deceit was exposed.

Another glaring omission: Treasury investigators failed to interview the only two credible witnesses who en-



Ron Noble, now assistant secretary of the Treasury for law enforcement and a former U.S. assistant attorney general, oversaw Waco Administrative Review Group's report on failed ATF assault. Noble's team produced sophisticated damage-control document aimed at minimizing fallout from the Waco fiasco. Noble later appeared with Attorney General Janet Reno to help sell Justice Department's Waco report, a more blatant whitewash.

tered Koresh's encircled religious retreat during its 51-day siege, Houston defense attorneys Jack Zimmermann and Dick DeGuerin.

“I don't see how anybody who claims to be outside and objective failed to interview the only two non-Branch Davidians with any credibility that were on the inside [of Ranch Apocalypse] and walked through the scene and saw the evidence and talked to the people who are now dead,” observed Zimmermann, a Marine Corps reserve colonel who recently returned briefly to active duty as a court-martial

judge at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina.

The Treasury report is “far more apologetic for ATF than the general public perceives,” noted DeGuerin. “I think there are many things stated as fact that aren't true. One thing I really disagree with is their decision to use that sort of force ... to execute a search warrant. It's wrong.” DeGuerin was Koresh's attorney until the 19 April fatal inferno which bore the scorched fruit of ATF's botched raid and the FBI's ham-fisted crisis (mis)management.

### Treasury Smoke Screen

Indeed, the Treasury report does not even mention the opposing views of Zimmermann and DeGuerin — neither of whom continue to have any vested interest in the Waco case — who contend the physical evidence they saw indicated ATF agents started the gunfight at Ranch Apocalypse and that federal gunmen fired on cult members from helicopters.

Nor does the Treasury analysis question ATF's decision to risk the lives of scores of women and children to serve a search warrant — the biggest operation in ATF's history and arguably the most expensive warrant service ever. The report's findings are based on an assumption that ATF conducted a fair and competent investigation, that Special Agent Davy Aguilera did nothing wrong and that the affidavit he filed to obtain search and arrest warrants was in *no way* flawed.

Referring to *Soldier Of Fortune's* August 1993 article, “Waco's Defective Warrants,” the Treasury report directly challenges the conclusion of every attorney consulted by *SOF* about





**GUNSHOT RELATED DEATHS SUSTAINED BY ATF ON  
FEBRUARY 28, 1993**

(according to CA-6 Forms submitted by ATF)

	Name	Team	Injury	Cause	Hospital where treated
1	Conway Lebleu	NO	Death	Gunshot	N/A*
2	Todd McKeehan	NO	Death	Gunshot	N/A*
3	Robert Williams	NO	Death	Gunshot	N/A*
4	Steven Willis	HOU	Death	Gunshot	N/A*

**GUNSHOT AND SHRAPNEL RELATED INJURIES SUSTAINED BY ATF ON  
FEBRUARY 28, 1993**

(according to CA-1 Forms submitted by ATF)

1	Clayton Alexander	NO	Two gunshot wounds - thigh in left leg; thigh in right leg	Gunshot	Providence
2	Roland Ballesteros	HOU	Gunshot wounds to the hand	Gunshot	Hillcrest
3	Bill Buford	NO	Gunshot wounds to both legs	Gunshot	Hillcrest
4	Samuel Cohen	DAL	Shrapnel fragments to lower right thigh	Shrapnel	Hillcrest
5	Eric Evers	HOU	Gunshot and shrapnel wounds to chest and shoulder area	Gunshot/ Shrapnel	Hillcrest
6	Mark Handley	HOU	Shrapnel wounds in right leg	Shrapnel	Hillcrest
7	Walter Glen Jordan	NO	Gunshot wounds to both legs	Gunshot	Hillcrest
8	Kenneth King	NO	Gunshot wounds to arms, chest and legs	Gunshot	Providence
9	Mark Murray	DAL	Buck shot wounds to left shoulder	Gunshot	N/A*
10	Gary Orchowski	HOU	Shrapnel wound to the right hand	Shrapnel	Hillcrest
11	Joseph Patterson	DAL	Shrapnel wounds to right cheek	Shrapnel	N/A*
12	Gerald Petrilli	DAL	Shrapnel wounds to right hand, wrist, forearms and left upper arm	Shrapnel	Hillcrest
13	Clair Rayburn	HOU	Gunshot wound to the hand	Gunshot	Hillcrest
14	John Risenhoover	HOU	Gunshot wounds to both legs	Gunshot	Hillcrest
15	Robert Rowe	HOU	Shrapnel wounds to right hand; large abrasion on face	Shrapnel	N/A*
16	Michael Russel	DAL	Wound to back of left shoulder	Gunshot	N/A*
17	Larry Shlver	HOU	Multiple shrapnel wounds to left lower extremity, tissue loss to left medial calf, soft tissue injury to left thigh	Shrapnel	Hillcrest
18	Steven Steele	DAL	Shot in lower lip and left hand; injured lower back and left leg	Gunshot	Hillcrest
19	Robert White	DAL	Bullet wound to left shoulder, neck and bruise to right shin	Gunshot	N/A*
20	Curtis Williams	HOU	Bullet fragments and puncture wound to upper thigh of left leg	Gunshot	N/A*

\*N/A means Not Applicable, treated by EMT at scene, or by private physician.

**SERIOUS NON-GUNSHOT RELATED INJURIES SUSTAINED BY ATF ON  
FEBRUARY 28, 1993**

(according to CA-1 Forms submitted by ATF)

	Name	Team	Injury	Cause	Hospital where treated
1	Keith Constantino	NO	Broken hip, extensive injuries to both knees and legs	Falling from roof	Hillcrest
2	Terry Lee Hicks	NO	Tom ligament between 3rd & 4th vertebra in neck; possible ruptured disk between 7th and 8th vertebra in neck; bruised or crushed nerve between 7th and 8th vertebra	Moving for cover	N/A*

**OTHER NON-GUNSHOT RELATED INJURIES SUSTAINED BY ATF ON  
FEBRUARY 28, 1993**

(according to CA-1 Forms submitted by ATF)

1	Wendel Frost	N/A	Ears subject to extreme noise levels causing possible hearing loss	Noise of two .308 highpowered rifles	N/A*
2	Felix Garcia	N/A	Severe irritation to left heel	ATF boots	N/A*
3	Steven Jensen	HOU	Severe back pain - lower back and right leg, muscle spasms	Carrying dead & wounded from scene	N/A*
4	Kenneth Latimer	HOU	Sprain/pull to right shoulder	Warrant execution	N/A*
5	Charles Meyer	N/A	Rib and back injury on left side	Diving for cover	N/A*
6	John Henry Williams	HOU	Two top front teeth chipped	Moving for cover	N/A

\*N/A means Not Applicable, treated by EMT at scene, or by private physician.

**Treasury tables of ATF dead, wounded and injured from Waco raid, 28 Feb. 1993; eight were non-gunshot or shrapnel injuries, including one agent who fell from compound roof and another with "severe irritation to left heel" from "ATF boots."**

the Aguilera affidavit: that the affidavit did not establish sufficient probable cause when its information was logically evaluated for required specificity, accuracy, jurisdictional relevance and timeliness.

"The evidence that ATF presented

in support of the warrant applications, however, plainly showed there was probable cause," states the report, adding "that numerous federal criminal violations were being committed by Koresh and his followers."

Filed in our editorial office under "We Told You So," the Treasury Department's report does verify much of what *SOF* readers already knew. Given federal law enforcement's growing Gestapo tendencies in recent years and the ominous arrival of military armor at the scene on the afternoon of the Waco raid, *SOF* pondered in its first Waco article, [see "Gun Gestapo's Day of Infamy" *SOF* June '93] — printed before Mount Carmel's final fiery apocalypse — whether "potential defendants [would] survive to go to trial."

The Treasury document confirms that:

- ATF's raid plan against Koresh and his Branch Davidian church members was "tactically and logistically flawed from

inception through execution," as reported by *SOF*.

- "ATF's cover was blown well before the raid — and the ATF leadership knew it, but ordered ill-prepared and uninformed agents in anyway," as reported in *SOF*'s first Waco story.

- "There was no contingency plan in place for the loss of surprise, nor one for heavy armed resistance," as *SOF* stated; no evacuation plan, no rally point, no way to go but hey-diddle-diddle-right-up-the-middle.

- The ATF never tried to arrest Koresh away from the residence he shared with more than 100 other people, including scores of women and small children. The bureau's conclusion that he never left the sprawling residence could easily have been discounted with only rudimentary checks. Koresh even visited the home next door to the ATF's undercover house, located just across Double E Ranch Road from the Branch Davidian complex, but he was apparently unseen by ATF agents.

Regarding "the significance of ATF's 'misleading statements,'" the report states emphatically that "there may be occasions when pressing operational considerations — or legal constraints — prevent law enforcement officials from being less than completely candid in their public utterances. This was not one of them."

"And a desire to shield one's agency from public criticism cannot justify false or misleading pronouncements [i.e., lies] on matters of clear public concern."

Unfortunately, the report goes on to attempt to mislead anyone seeking the truth about what happened before and after the ATF's assault on the Branch Davidians.

**Dodging Bullets — Again**

Given that there was so much lying by ATF agents in other aspects of the investigation on Koresh and the subsequent raid, it seems odd that the report does not take into account credible versions of events that are at odds with allegations made by ATF's principle investigator, Davy Aguilera, who apparently is quite skilled at dodging bullets, both of the lead and metaphorical varieties.

The report claims Aguilera's "suspicions [about Koresh allegedly converting semiauto weapons to illegal full-auto arms] were confirmed when he learned that Henry McMahon had sold about 90 AR-15 lower receivers to Koresh and that McMahon tried unsuccessfully to conceal the bulk of those sales and then to mislead Aguilera about the identity of the purchaser. Aguilera also discovered that Koresh had purchased AR-15s and AR-15 upper receivers from several other sources." Indeed, one member of the three-member independent review panel appointed by President Clinton to oversee the



Treasury Secretary Bentsen at right introduces John Magaw as new head of ATF — Magaw is former director of the Secret Service, another agency under Treasury Department. Just three weeks after Bentsen publicly endorsed a proposal to abolish ATF, it was revealed this approach had been scrapped.

report's compilation referred in his final letter to Bentsen of his impression that McMahon "had intentionally lied" to Aguilera and "tried to hide the purchase of AR-15 lower receivers by Koresh."

Aguilera "discovered" this amazing information about the AR-15 lower receivers because McMahon told him — voluntarily. Furthermore, as to Aguilera's "suspicions," McMahon's sales of lower receivers to Koresh — for which copies of all of the paperwork have been obtained by *SOF* — were not illegal. Aguilera lied when he said McMahon referred to Koresh as "my preacher" — implying McMahon was a cult member — and that McMahon tried to mislead Aguilera.

Interviewed by phone about the Treasury report's claims, McMahon told *SOF* that he and his girlfriend/business-partner Karen Kilpatrick informed Aguilera truthfully that Koresh was "a" preacher, not *their* preacher.

"We were never members of that church — never went to a single church service out there," Kilpatrick told *SOF*. "We couldn't have if we had wanted to. As gun dealers, we were gone every single weekend to gun shows. We were friends with some of the people out there. And they were not bad people."

As for properly identifying Koresh to the ATF, McMahon said gun dealers are required to check drivers' licenses for identification on paperwork documenting gun purchasers. McMahon did so, using a Texas

driver's license identifying the buyer as Vernon Wayne Howell, the name given Koresh at birth. McMahon *knew* that the buyer had legally changed his name to David Koresh — and he stated this knowledge voluntarily by writing in parentheses after Howell's name on the ATF yellow forms: "AKA David Koresh."

Henry McMahon wasn't trying to hide anything from anyone and Aguilera

knew this. But Aguilera lied — to his supervisors (themselves proven liars), to the Treasury Department's review group and to the Texas Rangers — in an effort to discredit McMahon's knowledge of ATF wrongdoing; part of a pattern of lies not addressed in the department's report.

There is a litany of ATF misdeeds the Treasury report documents. Herewith, based on the federal report, emerges a story both sad and outrageous, one of incompetent leadership, inept investigation, a disastrous raid

the Branch Davidian's residential compound, with no view at all of its rear, which contained dirt roads commonly used by Koresh and others when riding motorcycles. The eight undercover ATF agents assigned for surveillance were all too well-dressed and too old to be plausible as college students — assumed roles quickly detected by the Davidians. One undercover agent introduced himself as a new ranch foreman, but was an obvious bozo in bovine basics.

*"Although the agents took hundreds of photographs of the Compound and its residents, many photographs were not developed until long after the raid,"* the Treasury report states, *"and few ... that were developed were viewed by the tactical planners ... The undercover house should have given the planners an opportunity to test the validity of their [bad intelligence] ... But this did not happen ... Without clear objectives, supervision, or feedback, morale and performance began to deteriorate soon after the operation began, and the vigilance of agents suffered accordingly."*

The Treasury report erases any doubt that the Waco raid was approved at the highest levels of ATF. Agents Aguilera and Phillip Chojnacki (then-SAC of Houston's ATF regional office) briefed Higgins and his associ-

## The Treasury report erases any doubt that the Waco raid was approved at the highest levels of ATF.

and the resultant maelstrom of lies and chaos it spawned.

Actual surveillance on the Branch Davidian community was conducted from a nearby undercover house, lasting from 11 January to 17 February 1993. Yet intensive 24-hour surveillance on the raid site lasted only eight days and was halted on orders of Charles D. Sarabyn, ATF's tactical coordinator for the Waco raid and assistant Special Agent in Charge (SAC) of the bureau's Houston division office.

The undercover house offered agents a limited view of the front of

ate director for law enforcement — the tyrannical and much-feared (but not too bright) Daniel Hartnett — in Washington, D.C., on 11-12 February.

Hartnett ordered Special Agent Christopher Cuyler to notify the Treasury Department that a large-scale raid was about to be launched. Cuyler's one-page memo, dated Friday 26 February, was delivered that day to Michael Langan, the department's then-acting deputy-assistant secretary for law enforcement. It provided no operational details.

On the same day, Cuyler also gave a verbal briefing to Ronald Noble, a



former deputy-assistant attorney general nominated by the Clinton administration for assistant Treasury secretary for law enforcement, but who had not yet been confirmed. (Noble's law enforcement office headed the review group that produced the Treasury's Waco report.)

Shortly after talking with Cuyler, Noble met with Langan and Stanley Morris, a former U.S. Marshal Service director who worked in the Treasury's Office of Enforcement. Also present was John P. Simpson, the Treasury deputy-assistant secretary for Regulatory, Tariff and Trade Enforcement, who was then acting as assistant secretary for Enforcement. According to the Treasury report's account of the meeting, Langan and Morris "had serious reservations about the operation" and Noble did, too.

Noble reportedly observed that Cuyler's message did not address critical concerns about "why so much force was needed to execute the warrants" and with "what precise precautions were being taken to ensure the safety of agents and those inside the Branch Davidian Compound, and why ATF believed it could achieve its mission without a shoot-out." In light of these considerations, Simpson called Higgins and directed that the raid on Mount Carmel be called off.

The Treasury report details how Higgins called back 30 minutes later on that Friday afternoon, emphasizing "that the warrants had to be served forcefully because Koresh was not likely to surrender voluntarily and because ATF feared that Koresh and his followers might destroy evidence or commit mass suicide if given the opportunity."

### Higgins Says Go!

After assuring the Treasury officials that his agents were familiar with the Branch Davidians' daily routines and with where the community's weapons were stored, Higgins stressed that the raid needed to go forward on 28 February to offset an imminent series of *Waco Tribune-Herald* news features that might alert Koresh to ATF scrutiny.

"Higgins asserted that those directing the raid were instructed to cancel the operation if they learned that its secrecy had been compromised or if those in the Compound had departed from their established routine in any

significant way," the report states. "Higgins explained that an undercover agent would be sent into the Compound shortly before the raid to determine whether there had been any such changes in routine." Based on this promise, Higgins won approval for the Sunday raid from Noble and Simpson.

### What Raid Plan?

Planning for the actual raid was even sloppier than ATF's intelligence gathering; ATF's raid plan for the Waco operation "was never committed to paper in any detailed form," the report reveals. "Although the raid ... had originally been set for March 1, 1993 [the day after ATF's search and arrest warrants would have expired] no one had even started to draft a mandatory documentation of the raid plan by February 23, 1993, when Agent Darrell Dyer arrived in Waco and was assigned to be the Support Coordinator for the operation.

"Dyer's past military experience led him to assume that there was a detailed written raid plan, but when he asked the raid planners for a copy, he was advised that none existed. Dyer and Agent William Krone took it upon themselves to produce one, even though they started with little knowledge about the work of the tactical planners ... [They] had essentially finished a written raid plan the day before the raid.

"The plan, however, remained on Krone's desk; it was never distributed to any agents, or relied upon by any of the planners."

Following ATF's habit of inviting TV crews along on raids, agent Sharon Wheeler put two Dallas stations on standby for "something big" the week-

BRANCH DAVIDIAN DEATHS ON FEBRUARY 28, 1993  
CULT MEMBERS KILLED BY CULT MEMBERS

NAME	NUMBER OF WOUNDS	WEAPON DISTANCE TO WOUND (RANGE)	WEAPON CALIBER/ TYPE OF AMMUNITION	LOCATION OF WOUNDS/ CAUSE OF DEATH
WINSTON BLAKE	1	TWO TO THREE FT.	.223	CRANIOCEREBRAL TRAUMA
PETER HIPSMAN	4	(a) ONE TO TWO FT.	9 MM. WINCHESTER SILVERTIP JACKETED HOLLOW POINT	(a) UPPER POSTERIOR NECK
		(b) LESS THAN 1 INCH	9 MM. COPPER JACKETED SOFT POINT	(b) RT. PARIETAL SCALP
		(c) MORE THAN 4 FT.	9 MM. COPPER JACKETED HOLLOW POINT	(c) LOWER LEFT ANTERIOR CHEST
		(d) MORE THAN 4 FT.	UNKNOWN (NOT RECOVERED) PROBABLY BULLET (a)	(d) ENTRY TO POST-LATERAL ARM W/ EXIT OF ANTEROLATERAL ARM DEATH DUE TO (a) & (b) CRANIOCEREBRAL TRAUMA
PERRY JONES	1	WEAPON IN MOUTH	UNKNOWN (NOT RECOVERED)	CRANIOCEREBRAL TRAUMA-GUNSHOT WOUND TO MOUTH

CULT MEMBERS KILLED BY ATF

NAME	NUMBER OF WOUNDS	WEAPON DISTANCE TO WOUND (RANGE)	WEAPON CALIBER/ TYPE OF AMMUNITION	LOCATION OF WOUNDS/ CAUSE OF DEATH
PETER GENT	1	DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	PERFORATION OF AORTA GUNSHOT TO UPPER LF. CHEST
MICHAEL SCHROEDER	6	(a) DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	(a) RT. ANTERIOR SHOULDER
		(b) DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	(b) RT. LOWER FLANK
		(c) DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	(c) LEFT THIGH
		(d) DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	(d) RT. TEMPORAL SCALP
		(e) DISTANT	UNKNOWN (NOT RECOVERED)	(e) RT. SUPRA-AURICULAR REGION - EXIT RT. POSTIOR AURICULAR SURFACE
		(f) DISTANT	UNKNOWN (NOT RECOVERED)	(f) GRAZING GUNSHOT WOUND OF THE LEFT CHEST. DEATH DUE TO MULTIPLE GUNSHOT WOUNDS
JAYDEAN WENDELL	1	DISTANT	9 MM. HYDROSHOCK	CRANIOCEREBRAL TRAUMA-GUNSHOT WOUND TO HEAD

BRANCH DAVIDIAN INJURIES SUSTAINED ON FEBRUARY 28, 1993

NAME	NATURE OF INJURY
DAVID JONES	*GUNSHOT WOUND TO GLUTEUS MAXIMUS
DAVID KORESH	GUNSHOT WOUND TO PELVIC RIM AND LEFT WRIST
JUDY SCHNIEDER	*GUNSHOT WOUND TO INDEX FINGER
SCOTT SONOBE	*GUNSHOT WOUND TO LEG

\*ALLEGED WOUNDS

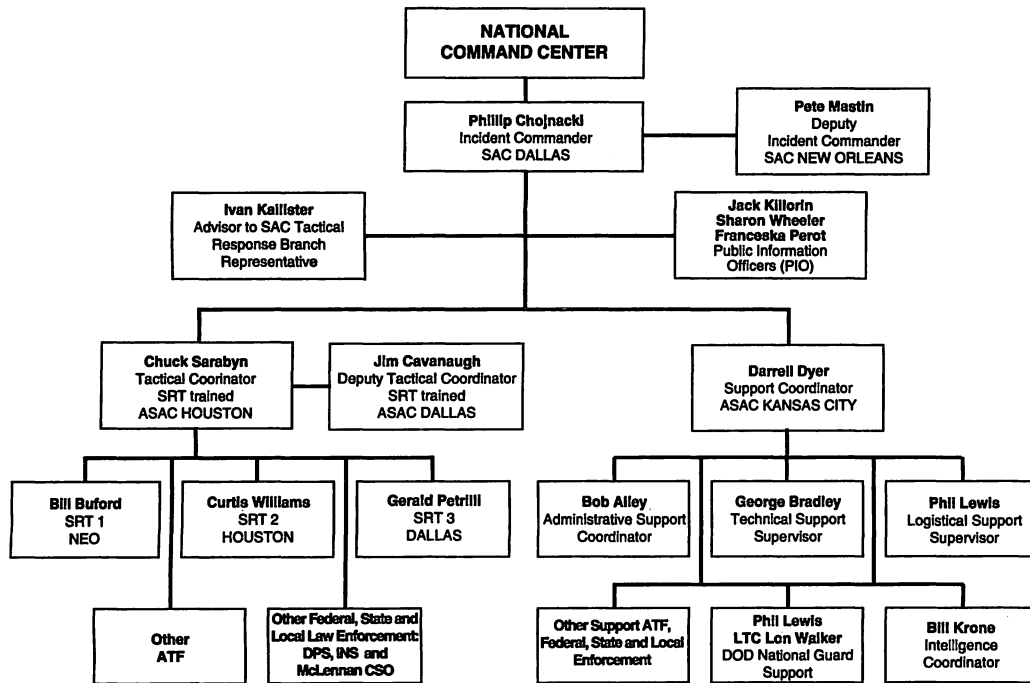
### Branch Davidian deaths and injuries from 28 February 1993 ATF assault.

end of 28 February. The Branch Davidians were tipped off that morning when rural letter carrier David Jones — Koresh's brother-in-law — stopped to help a man who was lost while looking for Mount Carmel. According to the Treasury report, the man was a member of the Waco broadcast news media who mentioned to Jones that " ... some type of law enforcement action was about to take place at the Compound ... likely to be a raid of some type and that there might be shooting."

Rushing to Mount Carmel to warn Koresh, Jones told his father Perry Jones. The report states Koresh was busy holding a Bible study session with undercover ATF Special Agent Robert Rodriguez and two others. The senior Jones drew Koresh away from the room under the pretext of a long-distance phone call, then David Jones warned him of the impending raid.

After hearing the news, a shaken Koresh told Rodriguez that a raid was imminent. Mumbling something

## NATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN (NRP)



Treasury report's organizational chart of ATF's National Response Plan structure and agent assignments for failed Waco operation. Note that incident commander Chojnacki was SAC of Houston ATF office, not Dallas unit as listed.

about "the Kingdom of God," according to the report, Koresh proclaimed "neither the ATF nor the National Guard will ever get me." Walking to the window and looking out, Koresh said, "They're coming, Robert, they're coming. The time has come."

"Rodriguez was shocked," states the report, and wondered "whether the raid was beginning even though he was still in the Compound ... Fearing that if he did not leave he would be trapped ... Rodriguez contemplated jumping through the window. He repeated that he had to leave for a breakfast appointment ... In a manner Rodriguez believed highly uncharacteristic, [Koresh] shook Rodriguez's hand and said, 'Good luck, Robert. See you later.'"

As he left, Rodriguez later told investigators, he felt as though he had been "burned" — i.e., it suddenly dawned on him how Koresh had known all along who he was.

Rodriguez burst into the undercover house. Agents later recalled he was "visibly upset ... He complained that the windows of the undercover house were raised and that he could

see a camera in one of them ... Rodriguez announced that Koresh was agitated and had said ATF and National Guard were coming." Rodriguez called Sarabyn at the ATF command post.

"Chuck, they know we are coming," Sarabyn later recalled Rodriguez saying. Sarabyn asked if any weapons were seen, or if there had been a call to arms. Rodriguez said no, everyone was praying. The report states Sarabyn hung up the phone and advised an agent that Koresh knew "the ATF and National Guard were in Waco and were coming." Sarabyn then said he thought the raid plan could still be executed if they acted quickly.

### Ounce Of Prevention

Sarabyn headed outside to confer with Chojnacki, who was raid commander, and with Ted Royster, SAC for the Dallas ATF office. The rotors were already turning on the three Texas National Guard helicopters readied for the assault. The agents stood behind a fence about 50 feet away so they could hear each other. Sarabyn alerted the other two that Koresh knew the ATF and National Guard were coming.

"Sarabyn also stated, based upon what Rodriguez had said, that Koresh was not ordering anyone in the Compound to do anything," the Treasury report states. After less than three minutes' discussion, the trio agreed to

launch the raid anyway.

"News of Rodriguez's report spread rapidly among the ATF agents at the command post, creating an atmosphere of great urgency and commotion," according to the report. "Various agents were heard yelling that Koresh knew of the raid and that they needed to depart immediately." Just after the helicopters took off, Rodriguez drove up to the command post.

"Witnesses recount that Rodriguez became distraught, repeatedly asking how the raid could have gone forward when he had told them that Koresh knew they were coming ... Several agents report having had qualms about going forward, especially since Koresh had mentioned the National Guard, yet they also felt questioning the decision would be inappropriate," the report states.

"According to agents in the trailers, although there was some light-hearted banter, the overall mood in the trailers was uncharacteristically somber. While some felt confident, others began to wonder why they were proceeding if Koresh knew they were on their way."

The rest is history.

During subsequent investigations conducted by the Texas Rangers and the Treasury Department, Sarabyn and Chojnacki lied about whether they knew before the raid that the element of surprise had been lost. When confronted about their deceit, they tried to blame Rodriguez, implying he was the liar.

When it was learned how the never-used ATF raid plan was revised, then re-revised, to cover up the fact that Waco case agents had blundered repeatedly, Sarabyn and Chojnacki lied about altering the documents. Confronted with their deceit, they tried to blame agent Dyer, who earlier drafted the last-minute assault strategy.

"Sarabyn and Chojnacki's false statements with regard to altering the raid plan document is consistent with their failure to tell the truth about raid day events," the Treasury report concludes. "And their readiness to blame Dyer indirectly is equally consistent with their efforts to do the same to Robert Rodriguez.

Continued on page 87



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# SECRET

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## VIETNAM SELLOUT

Continued from page 47

tured or held in Laos along the Ho Chi Minh Trail. The Laotian area of the Ho Chi Minh Trail was part of the North Vietnamese Army's Military Region 4.

That region's commander from 1965-1972 was Gen. Tran Van Quang, the reputed speaker in the first "Moscow document" that reported the holding back of hundreds of U.S. prisoners. As Clinton's emissary, Lord met with Quang in Hanoi this past mid-July. There is no record of Lord raising the issue with Quang of Americans captured or killed by North Vietnamese under Quang's command in Laos.

In recent statements, Lord claimed Clinton partially lifted the trade embargo based on Hanoi recently handing over 50 sets of remains; however, there has been no confirmation that those remains are actually Americans. The JTFFA admits that between 1991 and mid-'93, out of 99 sets of remains returned to CILHI in flag-draped coffins, just 14 have proven to be Americans. And some of these may have been declared dead based on the finding of only one or two teeth.

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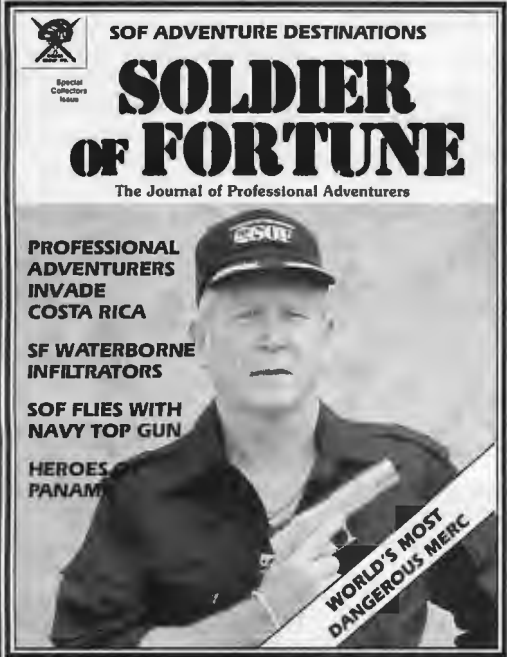
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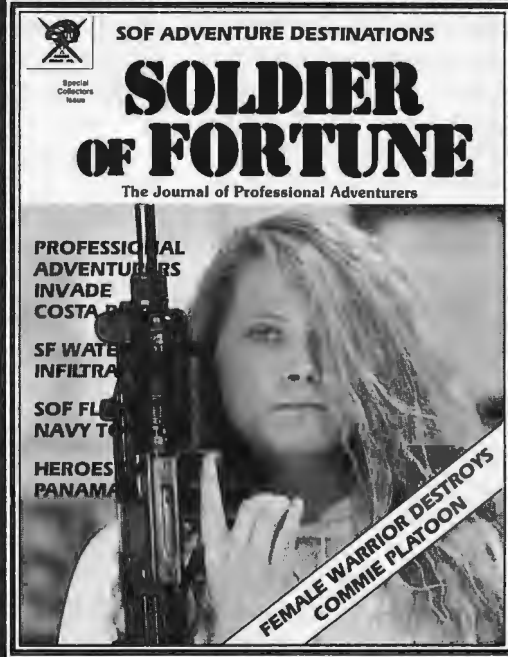
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never listed by Hanoi, the Viet Cong or the Pathet Lao as being POWs or as having died in captivity. These include persons such as Case No. 1456 Donald Sparks; Case No. 1274 Dallas Pridemore; and Case No. 0054 James McClean. MACV-SOG personnel and CIA Project 404 personnel captured by the NVA along the Ho Chi Minh Trail in Laos must be accounted for as well.

- An explanation of why the DoD recently removed the most experienced POW/MIA investigators out of Southeast Asia to bring in military and State Department personnel having no previous Southeast Asia experience, no human-intelligence backgrounds and no POW/MIA expertise.

- Defense Department personnel who have lengthy records of deceit and dishonesty must be removed. Infantry and artillery officers with no intelligence or POW/MIA backgrounds — such as John Cray in Hanoi — should not be directing field offices in Southeast Asia. Honorable experts such as Garnett Bell or William LeGro should be made directors of POW/MIA investigations in the field.

*Al Santoli is author of To Bear Any Burden, the best-selling Everything We Had and Leading the Way — How Vietnam Veterans Rebuilt the U.S. Military: An Oral History, recently published by Ballantine Books. Now a Parade magazine contributing editor, Santoli was a 25th Infantry Division sergeant in 1968-69, earning the Bronze Star for valor along with three Purple Hearts. He was an investigator for the chairman of the U.S. House POW/MIA Task Force in 1982 and has written extensively on POW/MIA issues. ✕*

## BODYGUARDS

Continued from page 58

resher courses. There are usually a minimum of five training courses organized by the IBA somewhere in the world in any month.

The basic course consists of:

- The Role of the Bodyguard
- Organization and Responsibilities of the Bodyguard Team
- Threat Management (Threat Assessment and Risk Reduction)
- Escort Drills (Pedestrian)

- Communications and Electronic Devices (Recognition and Search)
- Close Quarter Battle (Firearms, Unarmed Combat)
- Paramedicine (Life Support and Trauma Management)

The refresher course reviews these skills and takes the student to a more advanced level. Specific specialist courses are organized internationally throughout the year, covering skills that relate to improvised explosive devices, countersniping, CQB firearms, electronic countersurveillance and protective driving.

Special facilities courses are organized in cooperation with the local government and law enforcement authorities in areas such as Russia, Crimea, and the Baltic region because the cost of similar facilities and training in the West would be financially prohibitive.

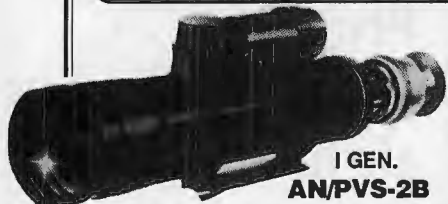
For more information on the International Bodyguard Association, including membership application, contact:

International Bodyguard Association USA, Jim Shortt, Director, P.O. Box 500, South Croydon CR2 6ZD United Kingdom; phone: 44 81 668 5190; FAX: 44 81 668 8745.

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## I WAS THERE

Continued from page 15

over the intercom if they were OK. Our crew chief reported a round had kicked his leg into the air, making a half-inch nipple in the deck where his foot had been, but he wasn't hurt. The medic was fine, too.

My co-pilot, fresh from flight school and on his first insecure mission, stared intently at the instrument panel, silently transfixed as though in a hypnotic state. After twice asking if he was all right and receiving no reply, I reached over with my left hand and slapped his shoulder. He didn't say a word, but nodded his head affirmatively. "Call Hawk Hill and tell them to have another bird flown out from Da Nang so we can get back out there before those people die on us," I told him. My co-pilot's facial expression and body language revealed he wasn't anymore excited about going back than I was.

Our Huey was a potential airborne torch, ready to be lit by any inadvertent spark of misfortune as we headed back to Hawk Hill with jet fuel spilling out behind us. We lost 250 pounds of fuel on the seven-minute flight "home."

As soon as our skids touched ground at Hawk Hill, I chopped the throttle and we all bailed out in different directions. After the blades stopped we returned to inspect the damage. There were 19 entry holes: eight in one fuel cell, six in the cockpit area and the rest in the cargo compartment — not a round had hit anyone. Had the enemy been using tracers, we might not have been around to take inventory. The JP-4 was still draining from our aircraft's belly; a huge pool collected as we watched.

My Christmas dinner consisted of a tasteless cold turkey sandwich consumed nervously while another helicopter was quickly ferried from Da Nang. Sitting in the aid station near the radio shack, I quietly reflected on those nine Asian youngsters fighting to live, lying out there in an exposed outpost and

probably wondering if the Americans really cared enough to "hang it out" for them a second time. We were their only link to medical help ... and possibly life itself. I determined this mission wasn't going to be over until we got our patients or "they" got us.

Later, on our return flight in a new bird, I decided to come in low-level from the east a couple miles out, requesting continuous smoke so I wouldn't lose the LZ. Red-lining our airspeed indicator at 120 knots, I snuggled down a few feet above the ground, weaving back and forth across the terrain, using small hills and tree lines to cover us whenever possible.

Nearing the LZ, we again encountered a barrage of machine-gun and small-arms fire, so I stayed on the deck and swung back to the south as if leaving the area. I felt like a rabbit blundering onto an active military firing range. Next, as the firing ceased, I instantly pulled a hairy 180-degree turn, heading due north.

I don't know whether our persistence surprised the bad guys

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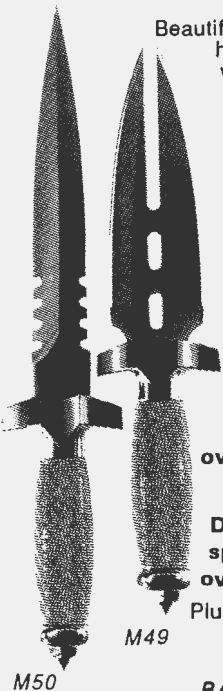
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or if we caught them reloading, but we were on short-final approach for the ARVN's purple smoke before small-arms fire again briefly erupted behind us.

After our patients were hurriedly thrown aboard, I went out low-level the same way we'd come in and then did a cyclic climb to 2,000 feet. We escaped taking any "hits" in our second aircraft, even though our objective had apparently been surrounded.

At altitude on the way up the coast to Da Nang, I turned around to assess the wounds of our patients; all had multiple gunshot wounds. One ARVN was slumped against the bulkhead behind my co-pilot's seat, shot in both an arm and leg. Our eyes met for a moment. He displayed no facial expression, just a brief nod in my direction. It was a thank-you that made me feel he understood what had gone on for us, even though by this time he was undoubtedly in shock.

Looking back, the campfire of this special mission has dwindled to crimson coals. I'm a half-century old now, but each year when Christmas rolls around I always recall those precarious moments. Any of those ARVN vets still living will probably remember that Christmas medevac for a long time, too. ☩

## BOSNIA

*Continued from page 39*

Another MP and Theodor sprinted out into the street. Rifle fire broke the air. One, two, three shots. The MPs opened up with AKs on the attic of a house 75 meters away.

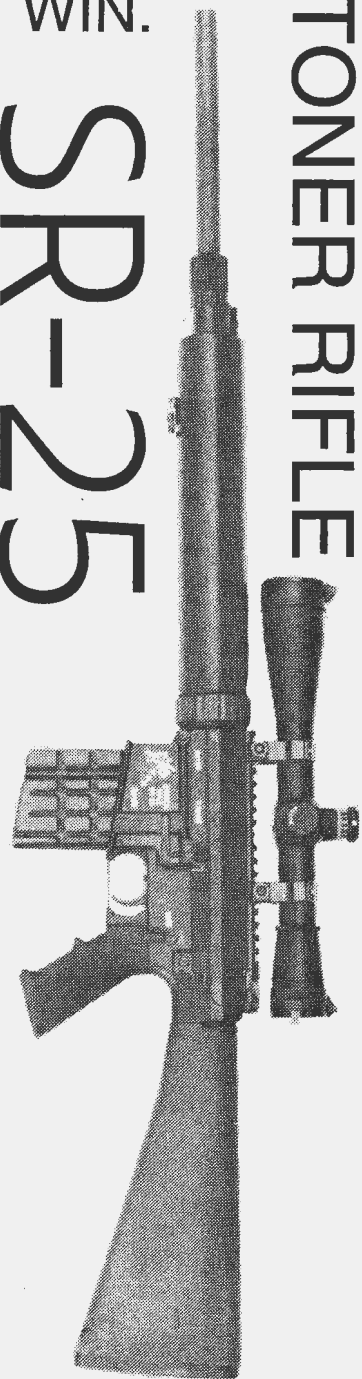
The Serb sniper fell silent.

I got the nod from the MP commander who was pressed against the side of a house to my left, his single-shot rifle aimed at the attic, and I began to run. One, two shots cracked over my shoulders. My foot reached the opposite curb.

The MPs opened up with a volley of covering fire.

Suddenly a deafening crack and a hot flash of light knocked me to the street. I was on my back. A mortar round landed six meters away. My foot

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was in shreds, but I was alive. I raised my hand and called for help.

After a cease-fire was arranged, I was carried by Croatian troops to a rear area MASH and then transported back to the civilian hospital in Karlovac. There, continued heavy Serb shelling forced us to leave Karlovac and drive back to a Zagreb hospital for surgery, and later evacuation back to the States.

The blood of one more journalist was added to the streets of the Balkans, but after the first rain, it will make no difference. No more than the blood of the thousands of combatants and innocents, which for centuries has washed the Balkan fields and cobblestones, has ever changed anything but the color of the snow upon which it spilled.

It's nearly impossible to say which side — Muslim or Croat — will take second prize in the latest Balkan bloodfest. One thing is certain, the scars and hatred between the two sides run deep. "I never hated Muslims before the war," said Miroslav, an HVO soldier I picked up hitchhiking outside of Gornji Vakuf. "I didn't even hate them after one tried to slice my throat. But after they killed my father and raped my grandmother, all I now live for is to kill as many Muslims as I can. I am a Croatian-made Muslim-killing machine."

So forget the headlines — the slaughter in the Balkans isn't any closer to being over now than it was 500 years ago. While world media has busily gorged itself on the Serbian siege of Bosnia, Croats and Muslims are locked in a battle to the death for what little territory remains unchallenged in the former Yugoslavia.

*Photojournalist Mark H. Milstein, a foreign correspondent for Atlantic News Service, is recuperating State-side as we go to press. ✕*

## GUNSITE

*Continued from page 63*

275-yard line for two shots again from the prone, a run to 250 yards for two shots from the sitting position, ending with two shots fired from the standing position at 200 yards. This latter stage is the most difficult because the rifle swings about wildly as the shooter

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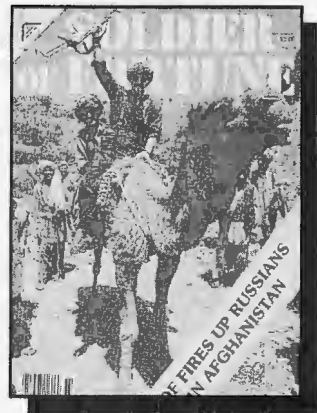
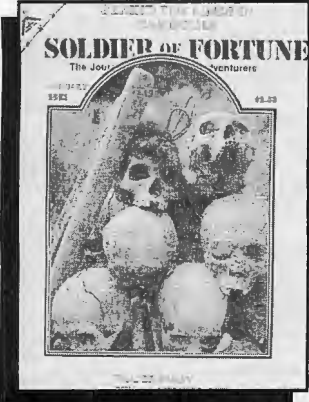
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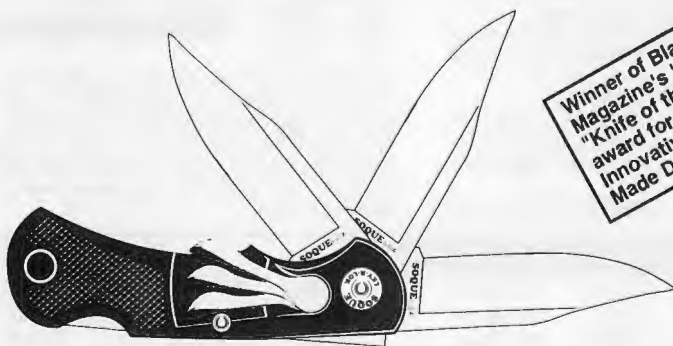
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Saturday is traditionally shoot-off day at Gunsite. By Friday night your grade has been determined, and on Saturday you can only go up a notch. This was fortunate for me, as on Saturday morning, "Rice Paddy Daddy" — a name with which I was christened by others in the class who had received far more insulting sobriquets from me — finally ran out of gas.

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## OUT OF SOMALIA

Continued from page 52

Mogadishu, and even that wouldn't stop those fanatics." Another Somalia veteran said, "The starvation is over. The food crisis is over. We've done our job, let's get out now."

Former basketball player Michael Jordan as the top news story while American bodies were being dragged through the streets of Mogadishu reignited the military's disgust with the press. "They're only interested in making money and not interested in bringing the truth out to people," snorted a sergeant, who added, "The press buzzards and 'military experts' are already picking at the bones of our dead. Few know what they're talking about."

Things turned nasty in that tortured land since I left last January, and have been getting more vicious every day since. I wrote in a nationally syndicated article 12 January 1993 that all of Somalia is not worth the life of one U.S. soldier. I still hold to that position. The place is hell, inhabited by rattlesnake-like evil leaders and many ruthless people. An Ethiopian who knows the Somalis well told me, "When two Somalis gather, you have a fistfight; three, a riot; and four, a war."

The loved ones of those killed will be correctly and perfunctorily notified that the "Secretary of Defense regrets to inform you that your son died serving his country," and the dead will be laid to rest with all the honor and ceremony a grieving nation and a smart ceremonial guard can muster. Then they will be forgotten until, somewhere down the track, a good citizen demands a fitting memorial. Then we'll have another wall to mark our mistakes. No one at the top will be held responsible or accountable. That's the new American way. The buck doesn't stop anywhere, it just slides along a track greased by young men's blood, pain and horror.

Aspin's "regrets" and Montgomery's fumbling just won't hack it this time. This fiasco must be examined from womb to tomb and the investigators must dig deeper than just what went wrong in Mogadishu. They must ask, for starters, what the hell we're doing in Mogadishu? They must ask, for starters, what the hell we're doing in Somalia? Clinton's Somalia buildup is the same as LBJ's was in Vietnam, except he's given the nation another promise. This one is an "exit" date.

Politics and war fighting don't mix. Nor does running the war from afar and not letting field commanders be in charge of the battlefield. These were major lessons learned the hard way in Vietnam. Heads must roll, and based on the anger and fury I felt on the streets of America and throughout our military communities, something may happen this time; the guilty may pay at last.

The people are going to demand that at last our leaders — military and civilian — be held accountable and responsible. The issue is not that Aspin should be fired, but who should replace him? Who should be the next secretary of defense?

There is one proven warrior who knows the military and has a double basic load of balls, former



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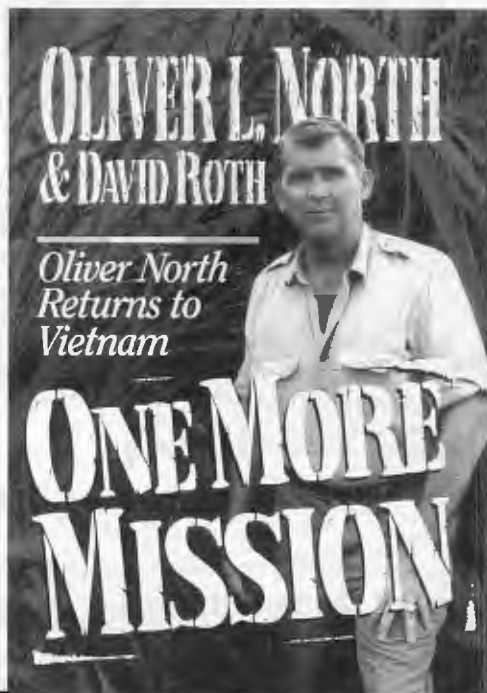
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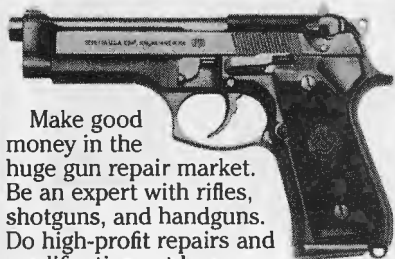


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Many *Soldier Of Fortune* readers will be outraged because of what happened and want revenge — an eye for an eye. But Somalia is not a test case for manhood. We cannot let uncontrolled rage get America stuck in another swamp where we cannot win and where America's security is not involved. It is the wise general who fights only when he can win. South Mogadishu alone could tie up one U.S. division in a security role, and daily they'd be nickeling and diming our warriors to death. It is the smart player who pushes away from the table after a losing streak and says, "I'm out of here while I still have a few bucks in my wallet."

General Gordon Sullivan, the Army chief of staff, has been lecturing "No more Task Force Smiths" <sup>1</sup> for over two years. None of the politicians listened to him and now we have another Task Force Smith on our hands. Somalia is not winnable. We must get out now. It takes courage to say "I made a mistake." It took almost 400,000 dead and wounded in Vietnam before we admitted our error there. With the only American POW secured, let's announce that our humanitarian mission has been accomplished and get out before it becomes another quagmire!

—D.H.

<sup>1</sup>First U.S. force to enter battle during Korean War. Composed of B and C Companies, 21st Infantry, 24th Division, Task Force Smith was too small and ill-equipped to stop the overwhelming numbers of North Korean infantry and mechanized divisions they were sent to stop.

## SOMALIA

Continued from page 53

many Rangers came back to the fight. A Ranger code is to never give up or stop fighting, and they stood tall. They

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hung in there throughout all the carnage and gave out more than they got for nine long hours before the rescue column linked up with them at midnight. Few Rangers emerged unscathed. It was a heroic stand. They cut a huge hole in Aidid's ranks. My sources put the chieftain's guerrilla casualties as high as 1,000 dead and wounded.

In the early morning, the wounded and dead were loaded into the APCs, but it took another hour before the bleeding rescuers and rescued were back to their starting point at the air base.

The mission, which involved over 500 soldiers, ended at 0600 Monday 4 October. Of the 19 guerrillas initially captured, two were severely wounded but all survived to become POWs.

Medics patched up and medevaced the wounded. The dead, many literally blown apart, were zipped up in body bags. The living were in shock and most asked "Why?" It was the end of an ignominious mission and only brave men prevented an even greater disaster.

*America's most decorated living veteran, Col. David Hackworth served*

*25 years in the U.S. Army and in 1989 authored the international best seller About Face. He is a frequent contributor to SOF. ✕*

## CHIMOIO

*Continued from page 43*

of the Vamps and Hunters diving at their targets and pulling away to allow clear runs for the Daks, and, knowing my turn was coming, I took off the headset I had been wearing to monitor the battle and put on my helmet.

At my "O group" the day before, I had told my men to bring a minimum of 600 rounds per rifleman, 1,500 per RPD machine gun, and four frag grenades each, in addition to their normal load of RPG-7 rockets, flares, white phosphorous and smoke grenades, medical equipment, rations, radios and batteries, and survival gear. FN FAL rifles were chosen over AK-47s, due to their extra hitting power and rifle-grenade capability (two phosphorus and two frags each for this attack). My men would fix bayonets

once on the ground, both for psychological advantage and the more practical one of saving ammunition at very close quarters.

From previous experience, I knew we could count on capturing enough ammo to replenish our machine guns, and if the situation got really serious my men could probably find enough AKs lying around to use if they ran out of ammo for their FNs. Still, with a force of only 200 men attacking 6,000 dug-in terrorists, there was a certain degree of anxiety about logistics in the back of my mind. The 2-minute warning came from our pilot, and that anxiety was overwhelmed by more immediate concerns.

Inside the crowded fuselage of the Dak, my men were already standing and hooked up, and were finishing their prejump checks. A last look from the door revealed a landscape billowing with smoke and dust, and I saw the other half of my A Troop start jumping from a Dak ahead and slightly below the one in which I stood. With rounds popping like popcorn outside, I gave a thumbs-up to my longtime comrade and troop color-sergeant, Koos Loots, and to my men — silent,

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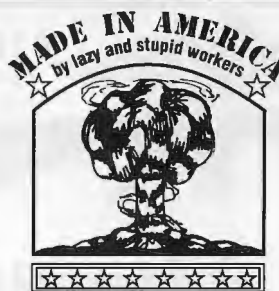


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sweating, and grim-faced after an hour of flying. The buzzer and green light went on and they started shuffling to the door and out, the 60 to 70 pounds of equipment hanging under their reserve chutes making graceful exits impossible.

"Fuck me, get me out of this flying target," I thought as the first man staggered out of the door. At 1-second intervals (calculated to put the men about 20 meters apart on the ground), we jumped into a maelstrom of bullets and smoke. Hanging in my harness, drifting down from 500 feet, I could see terrorists running beneath me through the bush, firing wildly over their shoulders into the air. I gave a brief moment of thanks for the wretched marksmanship and lack of fire discipline exhibited by most African terrorists, and was pleased to see the long line of green canopies descend gently through the heat and haze into the bedlam. My boots crashed through the branches of a mopani tree and on down, coming to a halt 6 inches above the ground.

Pounding my quick-release box, I dropped out of my harness and took cover behind a tree. My first

day at Chimoio had begun.

*The conclusion to "Fast Strike At Chimoio" will be featured in next month's issue of SOF. A veteran of the Rhodesian SAS, U.S. Army, and South African and Transkei defense forces, Maj. Robert MacKenzie is SOF Contributing Editor for unconventional operations.* ✕

## HELL'S HIGH PRIEST

*Continued from page 35*

nents claim he diverted \$4.5 million (or more) of these funds to his own projects.

• Aristide packed Haiti's supreme court with five new justices, refusing to submit them to the Haitian senate for confirmation. Contrary to law, he appointed several members of Haiti's electoral commission as ambassadors to the United States, Canada and elsewhere. When the senate blocked nomination of another commission member as ambassador to France, Aristide made him foreign minister instead. In

towns of Haiti's interior, Aristide replaced elected mayors with *lavalas* members, relying on the mobs to keep them in office.

• When Haiti's parliament resisted Aristide, *lavalas* mobs appeared carrying tires and gasoline. Several legislators were beaten. Union offices and opposition political headquarters were torched.

• Aristide turned on the Catholic Church after Archbishop Francois Wolff Ligonde denounced him for installing a "bolshhevik government." In response, *lavalas* mobs destroyed one of Port-au-Prince's oldest cathedrals along with the Nunciatura, a Vatican embassy. The papal nuncio (ambassador) was stripped to his shorts and paraded through the streets; his assistant, a priest from Zaire, was gravely wounded by a machete blow.

The archbishop fled Haiti to save his life. In a speech to the United Nations on 25 September 1991, a few days before his resignation, Aristide deliberately affronted his own church, ending with the words, "In the name of the people, their sons and their holy spirit, Amen."

• Another charge has since been

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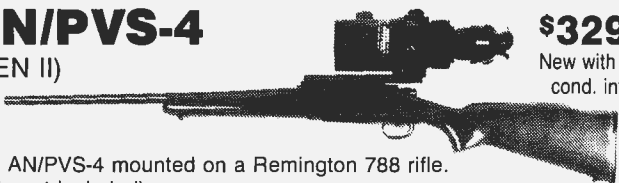
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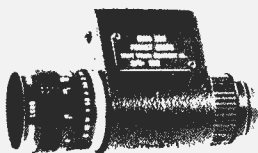


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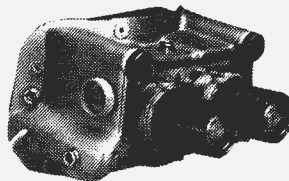


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added: Aristide is accused of ordering the murders of Roger Lafontant and Sylvio Claude on the night he resigned his presidency. Syndicated columnist Jack Anderson has reported how the FBI now has a statement implicating Aristide, taken from a young Haitian soldier who did the actual killing of the imprisoned Lafontant. The soldier now reportedly lives in hiding in Virginia.

### Bush & OAS Blunder

Upon his resignation, Aristide fled to Venezuela, where the president, Carlos Andres Perez — with the support of French President Francois Mitterrand and Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney — launched a campaign to restore Aristide to office. (Haitian exiles note that Perez and Mitterrand are prominent in the international socialist movement.) Meanwhile in Haiti, the parliament, in accordance with the constitution, elected a supreme court justice, Joseph Nerette, as provisional president and set elections for January 1992. However, Cedras remained the *de facto* head of government.

In the United States, then-President George Bush bowed to international

pressures and refused to accept what the Haitians had done. He declared an economic embargo of Haiti and joined in an effort by the Organization of American States (OAS) to force Haitians to accept Aristide's return. The scheme essentially starved them into submission.

This past June, the Haitian military — specifically Cedras — agreed to permit Aristide to resume the presidency this 30 October. Aristide must appoint a new prime minister who is subject to confirmation by the Haitian parliament. It was in this context that Clinton agreed to send American soldiers to Haiti.

So what can the world expect? Reporter Mike McQueen of *The Miami Herald* interviewed Cedras in July and concluded he is more moderate than generally recognized, "A person who is considered reasonable in a military with a bad reputation," as one person told McQueen. Nonetheless, the bulk of our media tends to cast Aristide as a hero vs. a strong-man general.

The threat of bloody strife is omnipresent. Haitian sources tell us how Creole-language radio stations in the United States bristle with threats of violence from Aristide supporters who

intend to return home and wreak revenge on persons supportive of the interim government. One such source, a Haitian who spent much of the past 20 years in exile, sat in AIM's office recently and said Aristide forces have a rough rule of thumb for identifying enemies: Anyone wearing a business suit or necktie is marked for violence. "If I went onto the street," this man said, "I would be killed — maybe by 'Pere Le Brun.'" "

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## COMBAT WEAPONCRAFT

Continued from page 21

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ship contest, as long as you understand the vagaries of shotgun ballistics and patterning. The handgun wins in the portability department, plus possibly some extremely-close-quarters tactical points.

The best answer is to have both weapons at hand, but buck-naked at 0300, this is highly unlikely.

Gentlemen, choose your weapons.

*Louis Awerbuck is rangemaster of Gunsite Training Center Inc., Paulden, Arizona, and a frequent contributor to "Combat Weaponcraft" column. ✕*

---

## PARTING SHOT

*Continued from page 98*

opportunity to work in a learning environment *completely free of disciplinary problems!* They would also be permitted (required) to grade based on objective performance without considering

vague and constantly changing social objectives. The use of military facilities like Fort Ord would allow them to leave the cities, as many would like. Further, there would be considerable benefit to the local economy.

It is quite possible that it would be necessary to select from an excess of teaching applicants. It is important that this be done with consideration of competence and motivation outweighing seniority, quotas, or other political objectives (e.g. recruiting former military teachers, for their leadership training and discipline). Our purpose, after all, is not to create jobs, but to motivate an interest in education so that on return to the system or to open society, our students become contributors to that society. In the proposed environment, students would learn plenty about social organization without the street-peer influence they left behind.

Funding would come from the state. Local districts would soon benefit from reduced costs of security and enforcement of

truancy rules. A high percentage of those returning to the system would likely add to student motivation levels, perhaps even press for higher standards!

Fort Ord is suggested as an example of a constructive use for the right kind of facility. Final selection would depend on what is available, but unused or under-used military bases are ideal, and the program would help revitalize communities that have lost a military base, without direct subsidy.

*Carl G. Hokanson is a business executive/management consultant native to Los Angeles. ✕*

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## SECOND AMENDMENT

*Continued from page 31*

a good poll. But we must call the attention of our elected representative to this with a brief to-the-point letter so they know how their constituents *really* feel about encroachments

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*Non illigitimus carborundum.*

*Jeff Nelson is a veteran of Special Forces, and a gun-rights activist. ✕*

## ATF WHITEWASH

Continued from page 71

"The decision to proceed [with the raid] was tragically wrong, not just in retrospect, but because of what the decision-makers knew at the time."

For readers wishing to obtain a copy of the Treasury report, entitled "Report of the Department of the Treasury on the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Investigation of Vernon Wayne Howell, also known as David Koresh," the Government Printing Office stock number is: 048-000-00447-4. The cost is \$33, postage and handling included. Phone orders (MasterCard or VISA credit cards only) may be placed by calling 202-783-3238. Mail orders containing personal checks, certified check or money orders made payable to "Superintendent of Public Documents" should be sent with the stock number and title desired to: U.S. Government Printing Office, Superintendent of Documents, P.O. Box 371954, Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954.

A former SOF Associate Editor, James L. Pate is a freelance writer providing ongoing coverage of the Waco tragedy, its aftermath and the inherent ramifications affecting American citizens. In next month's issue, Pate examines the Justice Department's report on Waco, which he describes as "a blatant whitewash, far more inadequate than the Treasury report." ✕



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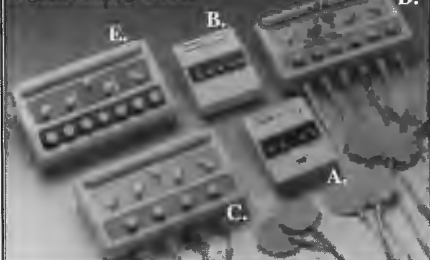
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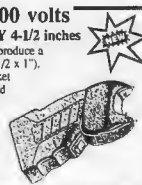
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C. Total Paid and Unpaid Distribution	21,878		21,129
D. Total Paid and Unpaid Distribution	90,761		89,129
E. Paid Distribution by Mail, Carrier or Other Means	796		1,974
F. Copies Not Distributed	91,547		91,103
G. Return from News Agents	234		250
H. Total (Sum of E, F, G) and Journal kept on press run sheet in 10	119,164		111,347
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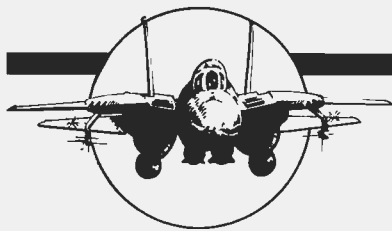
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by Carl G. Hokanson

Expulsion has generally been adopted as the penalty of choice for students in possession of deadly weapons, particularly firearms, on public school grounds. While a penalty is necessary, simple expulsion does not solve the problem. Putting these youngsters on the street at loose ends not only ignores society's interest in their continued schooling, but also runs a high risk of increasing their antisocial behavior.

I propose a method of dealing with the problem of students who bring guns to school, and with a somewhat broader spectrum of problems, in a manner which could address all of them. This "solution" is based on the premises that: (1) schooling is vitally important both to the individual and to the functioning of a free society; (2) schooling should be compulsory through completion of high school; (3) weapons, drugs, and habitual truancy have no place in the school system; and (4) *parents must take more responsibility for the behavior of their truants*. Let's start with the parents.

Guns or other dangerous weapons brought to school would be confiscated. The weapon's owner (if it was taken with his permission) and the parent(s) with whom the youth lived would be assessed two weeks' worth of pre-tax income, regardless of whether this amounted to two weekly welfare checks, or \$20 million ... or, *two weeks in the county jail*. The same penalty could apply to those parents whose kids possess illegal drugs, or have unexcused absences for — say — three times per semester. *Parents, do we have your attention?*

As for the students: The offending student would be expelled for firearms (and other selected serious) offenses for a minimum of one full academic year, plus any remainder of the

year within which the infraction took place. He/she would not be transferred to another public school within the state, but sent to a state-operated detention "school" at (for instance) Fort Ord for the period of sentence.

The school would not be a penitentiary or holding pen, but a combination of boot camp and *real* school, with first-rate curricula, facilities, teachers, and *real* discipline. Compulsory activities would include PT, drilling, and maintenance of the facilities. Those who shirked their duties or academics would bear a proportionately greater load of the most menial and dirtiest work. Serious disciplinary offenders at this facility would be subject to solitary confinement, and subject to statutes applicable to state prisoners, including real prison time. Those who did well academically could add electives to the core curriculum.

The education would be neither elitist nor egalitarian: It would simply be objective. Entering students would be tested and placed at their objective level of competence in each subject, regardless of the "grade" they came from in the public school system.

The basic curriculum would include the "three R's," U.S. civics, english (as needed), world geography/history/culture, and *real* home economics (meaning an introduction to the technical, legal, tax, banking, insurance, health, family planning, etc. issues facing a young adult in the *real* world), and training in a trade or commercially viable craft. Electives might include advanced courses in animal husbandry, or pre-college courses in mathematics, science, and language — and other

## PARTING SHOT

### Boyz In Fort Hood

"serious" courses that the facility would be willing and qualified to offer. Intramural sports and competitions, subordinate to the academics, would be required, as this funnels energy into recreational endeavors that would benefit students for the rest of their lives (university and professional scouting would be prohibited, however.)

We are talking *real school* here: six days per week for an 11 1/2-month year, with homework and examinations — pass or fail. Pass, and one returns to the public school system; fail core courses, and repeat them the following year! This should add a motivation to return to the public system.

**... simple expulsion does not solve the problem. Putting these youngsters on the street at loose ends not only ignores society's interest in their continued schooling, but also runs a high risk of increasing their antisocial behavior ...**

There will be no overnight leave whatsoever. Day leave once, or at most twice per month would be available only for good behavior, and only under the direct supervision of faculty members, parents or legal guardians. Mixing of the sexes would take place only under faculty-supervised social and athletic conditions.

Those who do not graduate by their 19th birthday would have the choice, following completion of the academic year, of a year in a state correctional institution, or a year in the domestic "peace corps." Escape would be treated as escape from state prison.

Where would we get teachers? The state would have its pick!

Teachers who genuinely enjoy teaching would have the

*Continued on page 86*

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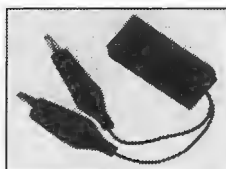
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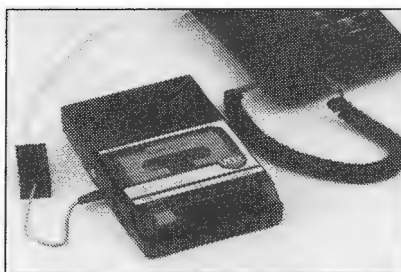
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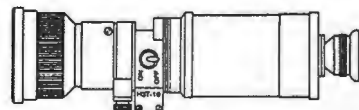


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Badger Attack



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### Specifications

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Steel	A-2
Handle	Linen Micarta
Sheath	Nylon Web
Hardness	58-60 Rc
Handle Bolts	304SS

Silent Knight

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